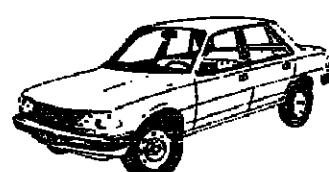


Iran may publish tapes

PARIS (R) — Iran may publish taped conversations between former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and the White House showing that President Ronald Reagan had "lied to the American people," a spokesman for the Iranian embassy in Paris said Friday. The Iranian government might, if necessary, publish the contents of conversations it recorded between McFarlane and the White House during McFarlane's visit to Tehran, the spokesman told Reuters in an interview. But the spokesman said he could not confirm reports that the taped conversations were between Mr. McFarlane and the president himself, saying only that they had been "with the White House."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تأسست من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرابطة



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King sends good wishes to Mauritania

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a congratulatory cable to Mauritania President Muammar Qaddafi on the occasion of Mauritania's National Day. The King wished the Mauritania president and people every progress and prosperity.

Prince Hassan briefs Dutch minister on development plans

THE HAGUE (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has stressed the necessity of supporting the steadfastness of the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories and to help them preserve their Arab identity on their land. During a meeting held at Prince Hassan's residence here with Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, Prince Hassan briefed the Dutch minister on the dimensions and objectives of Jordan's five-year development plan and the West Bank and Gaza Strip development programme. Prince Hassan also discussed with the Dutch official the current situation and the latest developments in the Middle East region.

Pedestrian tunnel planned near University of Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Acting Minister of Public Works Marwan Al-Hindawi said Friday that the ministry had started conducting studies for the construction of a pedestrian underground tunnel near the University of Jordan to ensure the safety of students. Mr. Hindawi told the Jordan Times and Al-Rai that the move came in implementation of directives by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai after numerous accidents involving pedestrians occurred on the university road.

Iran recalls envoy from Italy

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Iran has recalled its ambassador to Italy in protest against a programme on Italian state television last weekend which it found insulting, according to the national news agency IRNA. The programme, mocking Iran's revolutionary rhetoric, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, was broadcast in Italy Sunday. It included a sketch about the U.S.-Iran arms deal in which President Ronald Reagan and Ayatollah Khomeini were portrayed in comic fashion.

Arabs protest Herzog visit

COLOMBO (AP) — Diplomats from Iraq, Libya and the Palestine Liberation Organisation have protested to Sri Lanka over the visit last week by Israeli President Chaim Herzog to Colombo. Official sources said Friday. The sources said the complaints were made separately this week. The sources did not say how the ministry responded to the Arab diplomats. Mr. Herzog held a meeting with Sri Lankan President J. Jayewardene on Nov. 20 when he stopped in Colombo en route home from a visit to Pacific countries.

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Arab home burned and cars attacked in continuing violence in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An Arab house was burned and several cars attacked in Occupied Jerusalem overnight in continuing violence after the killing of a Jewish youth two weeks ago, police said Friday.

A petrol bomb was thrown at an Arab house near Dung Gate in the historic Old City, starting a blaze which firemen had to extinguish. There were no casualties. Police said the attack looked like the work of Jewish extremists. Elsewhere in the Old City, the tyres of nine cars were slashed in the Armenian quarters. Police said they suspected the attackers were Jewish.

At the Hebrew University campus on Mount Scopus, cars belonging to two Jewish students were set on fire in what police said appeared to have been an Arab attack.

Jerusalem has had its worst anti-Arab violence for years since the stabbing to death of Eliahu Amedi on Nov. 15 by suspected Palestinians.

Ultra-religious militants and right-wing Jewish extremists rampaged through the Old City last Sunday chanting "death to the Arabs," and Arab cars have been stoned and houses attacked

almost every day for two weeks. Arab leaders, including the mufti of Jerusalem, have accused the Israeli authorities of doing little or nothing to stop the Jewish violence.

Elsewhere in the West Bank, Israeli authorities placed two Palestinians in detention without trial for six months, alleging they were members of Palestinian guerrilla groups, an army spokesman said.

He said Fada Raouf Ibrahim Zibzi, 23, of Jenin, belonged to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Yassin Hassan Mohammed Kawasme, 35, of Hebron, belonged to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

Civil rights groups here and abroad regularly campaign for repeal of the administrative detention laws, inherited from the time of British mandate in Palestine.

A total of 25 Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip are now being held under detention orders.

An Israeli police spokesman said Thursday two Palestinians were arrested after a policeman found two bombs among their belongings.

The incident took place several days ago when the two, residents of the Gaza Strip, were stopped and searched by a roadblock policeman in Ashkelon.

He said the two were being questioned by the military authorities and are suspected of carrying out guerrilla attacks in Ashkelon and Ashdod.

In Lod, an Israeli military court on Thursday sentenced one of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's personal guards to three and a half years in prison.

Mohammad Mahmoud Darwish, 31, of Tunisia, was arrested in March 1985 on a vessel en route from Cyprus to Lebanon and was originally charged with being a senior officer of Force 17, an elite within the PLO.

But a military prosecutor told the court Thursday that Mr. Darwish, known also as Abu Nir, was not a commander in Force 17 but served as a personal guard to Mr. Arafat.

Mr. Darwish was charged with being a member of the PLO and providing services for the organisation.

Reagan remains secluded amid new twists in U.S.-Iran affair

SANTA BARBARA, California (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan remained secluded on Friday at his hilltop ranch amid reports of the possible destruction of key documents in the Iran arms row and White House denials that the crisis was out of control.

Mr. Reagan, spending the Thanksgiving holiday at his ranch in the Santa Ynez mountains, was out of reach of the media on Thursday as a flurry of reports surfaced about how much the president's top aides knew and when.

The U.S. Justice Department has expanded its inquiry into the diversion of profits from the Iranian arms sales through Swiss bank accounts to Nicaraguan contra rebels into a full-scale investigation including the FBI.

White House Chief of Staff Donald Reagan and press spokesman Dan Howard declined comment on a Los Angeles Times report on Thursday that Oliver North, who allegedly spearheaded the diversion of funds, had destroyed documents that might have incriminated others in the administration.

"I know nothing of that," Mr. Reagan told reporters. "I do know that all national security documents are not in the possession of just one person. There are copies of them. There is a central file... that's under close supervision so there'd be no chance that those would be missing."

Syria expels 3 W. Germans in retaliation for Bonn's move

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria on Friday ordered three West German diplomats to leave, following similar measures by Bonn on Thursday.

The Syrian government also said it was withdrawing its ambassador from Bonn until further notice and cutting the number of West German military attaches in Damascus.

The Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said the Foreign Ministry summoned West German Charge d'Affaires Willibald Diller on Friday morning.

The agency said he was informed of Syria's "regret" that West Germany was "bowing to the pressures of the United States and the United Kingdom, and joining the campaign of lies and defamation against Syria, and taking unjustified action which is not based on any evidence."

Two Arabs convicted Wednesday of the March 29 bombing of the German-Arab

flatly denied a news report that he had known about the Iran arms sales and contra links all along, saying: "It's ridiculous. I was not briefed thoroughly on all this. I never heard of it until the news came out Monday about the Iranian money and the contra."

Col. North himself turned up at the White House on Thursday but was refused entry. "North's name has been placed on the official 'do-not-admit' list," Howard said.

He told reporters this was standard procedure for anyone under investigation. "He does not have a White House pass. Any time he turns up he will not be admitted."

Another report on ABC television quoted unidentified administration officials as saying Vice-President George Bush would not come out of an investigation clean. The White House had no comment on that report.

Attorney General Edwin Meese, who unearthed the \$10 to \$30 million discrepancy in the cost of weapons sent to Iran and the price paid for them, has widened the Justice Department's probe to include people with "tangential" government ties.

Arms source shakes confidence in U.S. policies; S. Arabia denies Khushnood reports; Jane's says Iran getting arms from many sources, page 2

North was one of Reagan's 'cowboys,' page 4

Fayez reaffirms Jordan's rejection of separate solutions

PARIS (Agencies) — The speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Mr. Akel Al Fayez, has reaffirmed Jordan's total rejection of separate solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict and restated Jordan's stand that the only approach towards a negotiated settlement was an international conference on the Middle East.

Mr. Fayez, speaking at a press conference held at the Jordanian-French Friendship Society, said such a peace conference should be convened under U.N. auspices and attended by all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Mr. Fayez, who is heading a Jordanian parliamentary delegation currently visiting France, said the French government supported the call for an international conference. He expressed hope that the French government would continue its backing for Arab causes.

The speaker, who conferred with French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and Foreign Minister Bernard Raimond and parliamentarians during his current visit, said he found a complete understanding in France of the Jordanian stand towards the Middle East conflict. He pointed out that the stand was explained to the French leaders by His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai during their recent visits to Paris.

(Continued on page 3)

Pessimism prevails over chances of 9-point plan to end Amal-PLO feud

By Lami K. Andoni
in Damascus

PALESTINIAN and Lebanese Amal militia leaders were pessimistic on Friday that a nine-point draft proposal, which was agreed to by negotiators here on Thursday night would succeed in halting Amal-Palestinian fighting in Lebanon.

Lebanese Justice Minister and Amal leader Naib Berri said in a statement that it was difficult for any agreement with the Palestinians to take hold. "We do not trust Yasser Arafat (chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation)," Mr. Berri told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview. "Everything that concerns him is unreliable," he added.

The Palestinians, for their part, said there could be no agreement as long as Amal was massing its fighters around the Sabra and Shatila and other refugee camps in Beirut.

The nine-point proposal was reached after over a week of talk here with Syrian, Iranian and Libyan mediation.

The proposal, which was drafted by an alliance of leftist

Beirut. "The nine-point draft proposal is nothing but a manoeuvre (on the part of Mr. Berri)," said spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). The PFLP which is at odds with Mr. Arafat, is representing the Palestinians in the Damascus talks after joining Arafat loyalists in the camps war against Amal. The DFLP is taking an active part in the negotiations, albeit not as directly as the PFLP.

"There will be no agreement with Amal as long as Amal continues its siege of Sabra and Shatila and other camps in Lebanon," the spokesman for the PFLP said.

The nine-point proposal was reached after over a week of talk here with Syrian, Iranian and Libyan mediation.

The proposal, which was drafted by an alliance of leftist

Amal and Palestinians ignore truce

MAGHDOSHEH, Lebanon (R) — House-to-house fighting raged in Maghdousheh village on Friday as the deadline passed for the start of a proposed truce between the Shiite Muslim Amal militia and Palestinian fighters.

Shells fell at a rate of four every minute, slamming into the small stone houses and streets of this hilltop stronghold overlooking the Palestinians' 'Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp and a strategic highway from Beirut to South Lebanon.

Residents of nearby Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, said the fighting sounded like the worst since the battle for Maghdousheh started on Monday.

A truce mediated in Damascus with Syrian, Iranian and Libyan intervention was expected to take effect on Friday but was never officially announced.

Details of the proposed

nine-point accord were published in Beirut newspapers. It provided for a 1300 GMT ceasefire and a pullback by both sides to positions held on Monday.

The fighting around 'Ain Al Hilweh and two other Palestinian camps in Beirut and South Lebanon has claimed the lives of at least 200 people so far, security sources said.

In Beirut, Palestinian sources said more than 40 people were killed or wounded when Amal's T-54 tanks fired down the narrow alleys of Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila camps.

The sources said the fighting escalated around the time the proposed truce was due to take effect.

An Amal source said shells rained down on crowded residential areas around the camps as explosions echoed over the capital and ambulances raced

through the streets to rush the wounded to hospitals.

The proposed accord provided for emergency supplies to be taken on Sunday to the besieged refugee camp of Rashidiyeh, about 35 kilometres south of Sidon.

In Beirut, Amal sources said Palestinian gunmen launched an onslaught from Bourj Al Barajneh early Friday to wrest control of the highway linking the capital with its airport.

The strategic road runs along the coast, linking Beirut with its airport and, farther south, with Sidon and Tyre.

Political observers say that if Palestinians succeeded in controlling or cutting the highway, either on the southern edge of Beirut or near Sidon, it would sever Amal's positions in the capital with its southern Shiite heartland.

part of a new, concerted PLO attempt to reestablish a coastal operational base within striking distance of Israel's northern border.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat's Fateh and rival pro-Syrian groups, they say, have set aside their differences in a joint effort to reestablish footholds around Sidon and the port of Tyre, 15 kilometres north of the Israeli frontier, which they held before the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The sources were sceptical that a Syrian-mediated ceasefire agreed in Damascus on Thursday, under which the rival forces are due to withdraw to their original positions, would end the fighting. Arafat loyalists were not represented at the Damascus talks.

Reporting Thursday's attack, Lebanese police said the raiding jets fired at least 10 rockets on guerrillas based in the hills overlooking the refugee camp of Mieh Mieh in the 10-minute assault waged at 2:25 p.m.

Egypt invites Arafat for talks on peace efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Egypt has extended an invitation to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to visit Cairo for talks with President Hosni Mubarak on means to further peace efforts towards convening an international conference on the Middle East, informed sources were quoted as saying on Friday.

The sources, quoted by the Qatar News Agency, said the date for Mr. Arafat's visit was to be determined in the light of his commitments, especially following the recent flare-up in the 'camps war' in Lebanon.

Mr. Arafat's political advisor Hani Al Hassan visited Cairo earlier in the week for talks with Dr. Osama Al Baz, President Mubarak's office director for political affairs.

Mr. Hassan's talks in Cairo, according to sources, dealt with the outcome of His Majesty King Hussein's recent talks with Mr. Mubarak. The talks also tackled topics related to recent efforts

Israel raids on PLO bases seen as move to aid Amal

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel, alarmed by what it sees as a Palestinian drive to reestablish strongholds in southern Lebanon, is intervening directly on the side of the Shiite Muslim Amal, Israeli and Western sources say.

On Thursday, Israel carried out its sixth air raid this month around the port city of Sidon, where Amal and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) fighters are fighting for control of strategic heights.

Witnesses said the Israeli planes bombed PLO positions directly involved in the battle for control of the hilltop village of Maghdousheh, dominating the 'Ain Al Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp.

"The Israelis are providing close air support for Amal. They are hitting PLO positions immediately involved in the fighting and boats used to bring arms to Palestinian fighters in the camps," a Western military attaché said.

Israeli sources contend that the see-saw battle for Maghdousheh is aimed at convening an international peace conference on the Middle East as well as the development in the Amal-Palestinian fighting in Lebanon, the sources added. Mr. Hassan was due to forward a detailed report on his talks with Egyptian officials to Mr. Arafat.

Egypt's envoy to the United Nations has called on the PLO to resume contacts with Jordan towards advancing the efforts for convening an international conference.

In his call before the U.N., Egypt's envoy Abdul Halim Badawi cited certain prerequisites for Arab-Israeli negotiations towards a settlement to the conflict.

Mr. Badawi said it was important that the Israeli community decide once and for all whether they wanted to seek the path of peace.

Mr. Badawi urged the PLO to adhere to the terms of the Feb. 11, 1983, Jordan-PLO accord, which is supported by all Arab countries.

Iran extends offer of arms-for-hostages deal

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran's parliament speaker said on Friday his country would still consider helping secure freedom for American hostages in Lebanon if the United States delivered weapons bought by the Shah.

The speaker, Hashemi Rafsanjani, also denied reports of an Israeli involvement in a more recent arms deal with Iran. The United States says it supplied those weapons in a bid to improve relations.

"If America stops being a bully and returns our material held there, we will ask the Lebanese people to help you in the question of the hostages," Mr. Rafsanjani said in a Friday prayer sermon at Tehran university.

"Therefore, do not try to deviate the issue and connect it with arms purchases," he said, apparently referring to the political storm in Washington over the recent arms sales.

Excerpts of his speech were quoted by Tehran Radio.

The American weapons were bought by Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi before his downfall in

1979 but Washington later refused to deliver them because American hostages were held in Tehran. The American hostages in Lebanon are being held by pro-Iranian factions there.

On Israel's role in the delivery of arms to Iran, Mr. Rafsanjani said:

"We have never negotiated with Israel — which we consider an illegitimate sperm — for arms purchases. If we find out that the weapons reaching us have come through Israel, we will not even use them in the war fronts. So do not unnecessarily defame the Islamic Republic by mentioning the name of Israel."

Mr. Rafsanjani also said that the controversy within the United States over the secret arms shipments to Iran showed the Americans were vulnerable to intrigue.

He called on other nations to create similar problems for them. Mr. Rafsanjani, who first broke news of the secret White House initiative three weeks ago, said Iran had scored a "brilliant victory" by causing disarray in

Washington.

He added that it would have been even greater if things had developed "according to our scenario," but did not elaborate.

"Looking from the outside, one thinks they (the Americans) are united. But only until you create an intrigue," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

"Other countries can do it too," he said. "The world should learn from the Islamic Republic of Iran and create problems (for Washington)."

He emphasised that Iran had bought the weapons from the U.S. government, while acknowledging that many arms dealers had connections with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Mr. Rafsanjani said Iran did not know, and was not responsible, if some of the cash it paid for the weapons reached Nicaraguan rebels through Israel and Swiss bank channels, as stated by U.S. Attorney-General Edwin Meese.

But he added bringing Israel and the "contras" into the affair had been "the height of meanness."

Iran arms furore shakes confidence in U.S. policies

LONDON (R) — The crisis over U.S. arms sales to Iran has shaken the confidence of Washington's European and Arab friends in the Reagan administration's policies from the Middle East to arms control talks with the Soviet Union.

Spokesmen for most NATO governments have insisted that the uproar over the sales and diversion of the profits to American-backed contra rebels in Nicaragua was an internal U.S. affair, but other officials were unapologetic in their comments.

Arab leaders, most of whom support Iraq in its six-year-old war with Iran, also voiced their outrage at the sales which were channelled through Israel and aimed, according to Mr. Reagan, at improving U.S. relations with Tehran.

The state-controlled Soviet and East European media lashed the U.S. leadership for "arrogance" and "moral collapse" but Moscow signalled it would continue to seek an arms deal with Washington as a top priority.

Among European politicians, West German right-winger Franz Josef Strauss told the daily Die Welt: "The loss of trust (in Washington) is much greater than the objective damage from this affair. American foreign policy must be dependable and predictable."

Mr. Strauss, whose Christian Social Union is part of the Bonn coalition, declared: "I would sack the supporters of this move and set up clear regulations on the circumstances in which the United States is ready to provide weapon supplies."

Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, in a press interview, described the arms sales revelations as "a worrying situation which called for a thorough investigation."

A spokesman for Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers' Christian Democrat Party, Joep De Boer,

particularly betrayed by the revelations, diplomats there said.

Iraq called the sales a "dirty game" but, in reference to Israel's middleman role in the deals, a military spokesman said: "The Israeli-imperialist aid will not do the Iranians any good."

In Iran itself the press and radio have given extensive coverage to the disarray in the White House but Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi denied an Israeli connection in the affair.

Tehran Radio said "imperialist and Zionist" media were "repeating the old myth of Israel-Iran links, or putting forth new imaginings about the connection of these issues with American aid to counter-revolutionaries of Nicaragua."

Israeli leaders have admitted that Israel transferred American arms to Iran, while professing surprise that some of the proceeds went to the contras. But the Israeli role provoked some discussion in the cabinet.

In Moscow, the Soviet News Agency TASS said the Reagan administration stood accused of duplicity, falsity and incompetence, while the Communist Party daily Pravda said:

"This deception, a cynical lie to the American people, to Congress, to the international community... demonstrates the full depth of the moral collapse of the rulers in Washington, the crisis of their two-faced policy."

In similar vein, the Czechoslovak party daily Rude Pravo said the scandal was "an expression of (Reagan's) arrogance of power."

But the chief Soviet arms negotiator, Viktor Karpov, has said that despite the Iran furore, his instructions were still to seek a disarmament agreement with the United States as soon as possible.

France, Italy discuss Mideast

PARIS (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand and Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi met Friday for talks that officials said would focus on Middle East developments and East-West relations.

French officials said the situation in Lebanon, where both countries have forces serving with the United Nations, and relations with Libya following a meeting in Malta last week between the Italian and Libyan foreign ministers, were high on the agenda for the annual conference between the two leaders.

The stalemate in Soviet-U.S. arms talks in the light of the Reykjavik summit and President Reagan's decision to breach the limits set by the unratified SALT-2 strategic arms limitation treaty will also be discussed.

U.S. Cruise missiles are deployed at the Sigonella Air Base in Sicily.

Craxi and Mitterrand met for an hour of talks before breaking for a working lunch. Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti met French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond.

In a delicate balancing act taking account of France's split political leadership, Mr. Craxi was due to meet later with French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, head of the right-wing government serving under the Socialist president.

S. Arabia denies Khashoggi helped in Iran deal

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi Arabia has denounced U.S. press reports that Saudi millionairess Adnan Khashoggi helped arrange finance for Iran's purchase of U.S. weapons as "pure fabrication and planted lies."

The Saudi Press Agency quoted an unidentified government official as saying he was referring to an Associated Press dispatch quoting the New York Times and the Washington Post.

"He said the report was based on 'speculation attributed to unidentified American and Israeli sources'."

"We deeply regret that such planted lies and others... should emanate from information media enjoying the trust of readers throughout the world."

The Saudi government threatened to sue the media circulating such reports, the agency reported.

"We shall not hesitate to resort to local laws against the sources of any information media that does not verify what it reports on the kingdom," the official was quoted as saying.

Jane's: Iran getting arms from variety of countries

LONDON (AP) — In the last two years, Iran has acquired arms from Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, China, Israel, Libya, North Korea and Syria, spending billions of dollars and often paying prices far above market rates, according to the latest issue of Jane's Defence Weekly.

The authoritative British magazine said the clandestine U.S. shipments of arms to Iran, which have sparked a government crisis in Washington after they were confirmed by President Ronald Reagan, "were only the tip of the iceberg."

It said Iran's clandestine deals, together with secret arrangements with European, East Bloc and Latin American companies, involve the purchase of missiles, combat aircraft, tanks, gun barrels, spares and other items.

It said that Iran, outgunned by the Soviet-supplied Iraqis in the 6-year-old Gulf war, has stepped up its efforts to buy weapons in the last two years to give it the firepower it needs for its long-heralded final offensive.

The magazine is part of the London-based Jane's Publishing House. Its reference books on military hardware are used by defence forces worldwide.

The article by reporter James Bruce said Iran's main problem was that it was equipped largely

with U.S.-made weapons systems provided during the rule of the late shah, who was forced into exile by Iran's present Islamic fundamentalist leaders in 1979.

It reported: "Iran's weaponry has gradually been worn down in the gruelling Gulf war through combat losses. A lack of spares, particularly for its aircraft and tanks, has been largely responsible for sidelining much of its air force and armour."

"The Iranians are desperate for weapons, but particularly U.S.-made systems, a Pentagon analyst told Jane's Defence Weekly. They will go to the most extraordinary lengths to acquire them because of their compatibility with the hardware they already have. But the bottom line is that they will take anything they can get from anyone."

Bruce told how in one instance, the Iranians, whether unwittingly or not, bought back American-made M-48 tanks, artillery pieces and other weapons that the Iraqis captured from them in 1984.

"The Iraqis, who found they could not use the equipment because of a lack of spares and ammunition, put the captured hardware on the black market," Bruce reported.

"The Iranians were approached

by Arab and Swiss dealers to buy the equipment in the spring of 1985 and eventually paid \$100 million for the tanks and guns. The middleman pocketed \$10 million in commissions."

Bruce quoted an unidentified Arab source with knowledge of the deal as saying this illustrated how ready the Iranians were to acquire equipment, "often at prices that are way above market rates," even though oil-rich Iran is hard pressed because of low world oil prices and a severe economic crisis.

"Israel, too with a vast armoury of U.S. weapons, many of them mothballed as they were replaced by more advanced systems, has supplied the Iranians through back-door shipments camouflaged through third and even fourth parties," Bruce added.

He noted it is illegal under U.S. law for countries holding U.S.-made weapons to transfer them to other countries without permission and that Israel has said it has halted arms shipments to Iran since the pro-Western Shah was toppled.

But he wrote: "U.S., European and Arab sources say that Israel has shipped weapons, mainly obsolete missile systems, small arms and ammunition, to Iran

since the Gulf war broke out. They estimate this trade totalled around \$500 million. Evidence has surfaced that U.S. shipments continue, despite Israeli denials."

"Pentagon specialists say main arms pipelines into Iran these days run from China, North Korea by sea and Eastern Europe by air and through Syria."

He said China signed a \$1 billion deal with Tehran in May 1985, to provide 50 J-7 fighter tanks, artillery, surface-to-missiles and multi-barrel rocket launchers.

He said Iran has an estimate 60 to 70 serviceable combat planes, mostly American Phantoms, F-5s and F-14s, age Iraq's 500 Soviet MIG-23s, MIG-25s and SU-26s and French Mirages.

Bruce said Iran's purchases have also included many U.S. anti-tank missiles brought in by European countries through dealers, often via Libya or the countries falsely listed as end-users.

"The Tow deal underlines how much the Iranians prepared to pay. A Tow nominal cost about \$6,000. But Teh has reportedly paid up to \$16,000 a piece," he wrote.

Bani-Sadr says North, McFarlane twice visited Tehran

LONDON (AP) — Former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and Lt. Col. Oliver North made two visits to Iran this year, former Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr was quoted Friday as saying in a newspaper interview.

The Independent reported that Mr. Bani-Sadr, speaking by telephone from his exile home in Paris, said the Americans made the first visit together at the end of May and the second in early September.

Disclosure of Mr. McFarlane's mission and confirmation by U.S. President Ronald Reagan that his administration sold arms to Iran and channelled the money to Nicaraguan contras has sparked a crisis in Washington, with the resignation Tuesday of National Security Adviser John Poindexter and the firing of Col. North.

The Independent quoted Mr. Bani-Sadr, who is turn quoted unnamed sources, as saying that one of the Americans' contacts in Tehran during their May visit was Hossein Sheikholeslam, a leader of the group that held 52 Americans hostage at the U.S. embassy in the Iranian capital for 444 days.

Mr. Bani-Sadr said Mr. McFarlane and Col. North flew to Tehran for their first visit in a private plane piloted by an exiled Iranian, Farzin Azimi, following a meeting with Iranian officials in Zurich, the paper reported.

British exercises continue in Oman

MUSCAT, Oman (AP) — British troops, staging joint manoeuvres with Omani forces, have simulated an advance toward the Gulf of Oman, landing units on the shores as ships at sea provided cover fire, military sources reported Thursday.

The exercises, codenamed "Swift Sword," began last week and were expected to go on until Nov. 30. British Defence Secretary George Younger has watched the mock advance.

"This is a major demonstration of how our two armed forces can work together. It is also an evident reminder to us in Britain to deploy a large force outside the NATO."

His remark and the reports on the manoeuvres came from military sources returning from

the scene. They requested anonymity.

The games are designed mainly to display Britain's rapid deployment ability in crisis areas. They are the biggest exercise by British forces outside the NATO area since the 74-day Falklands war with Argentina in 1982.

About 10,000 troops from the two nations' army, navy and air force are taking part in the exercises. More than 100 fighter aircraft, helicopters and transport planes, as well as 22 warships from Oman and Britain have been deployed.

Wednesday's games were led by the British assault ship, Intrepid, with the aircraft carrier, Illustrious, providing the air cover.

The military sources said the

advance was a major part of exercises and took place near entrance to the Gulf of Oman.

Operations included parachute landings with simultaneous air attacks by airborne forces, sources said.

Ships at sea shelled land targets to prevent an enemy advance or counter-attack, they said.

Tornado fighter aircraft attacked areas where host anti-aircraft guns were supposed mounted.

The manoeuvres are being conducted with friendly air hostilities pitted against each other to introduce an element of realism, the military sources said.

The war games are being staged 200 kilometres south of the Omani capital, Muscat.

EC rejects freedom of movement for Turks

ANKARA (R) — The European Community (EC) has told Turkey its workers cannot have the right to settle freely in the Community from next Monday, diplomatic sources said Friday.

Turkey's 1983 associate membership agreement with the EC had set Dec. 1 as the target date to allow the 5.1 million Turks to move freely throughout the Community.

But the sources said Ali Bozer, Turkey's minister of state for relations with the Community, was told by letter Thursday that the EC had a different legal interpretation from Ankara on the agreement.

The letter, from British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe on behalf of the EC foreign ministers, offered to hold talks at ministerial level to discuss the issue, they said.

The EC commission's Ankara representative, Gwyn Morgan, saw Mr. Bozer Friday and

suggested that Turkey should produce a "considered, not hasty" reply to Sir Geoffrey's letter, they said.

Morgan proposed that the ministerial talks could be held at the earliest after the West German general election in January.

The talks will focus on the EC offer of restricted freedom of movement for Turks already in the Community together with limited rights for spouses and children to join them.

Turkish government figures put the number of Turks in the EC at 1.8 million, including 1.4 million in West Germany.

Ankara, restating its claim that the 1963 agreement gave Turks the right to settle anywhere in the Community, has said it is ready to discuss the question in the context of an application for full EC membership.

Mr. Bozer is expected to meet Belgian Foreign Minister Leo

Tindemans, who takes over the presidency of the EC Council of Ministers on Jan. 1, and tell him that Turkey might apply for full membership during his term of office, the sources said.

But they said the EC was expected to mount pressure on Ankara not to raise the stakes in what could become an increasingly bitter dispute.

Legal experts in Brussels have agreed that the EC minister would need to vote unanimously for an application to pass the first stage — reference to the commission for its opinion — and this was inconceivable at present.

Not only would Greece object as it has done to earlier moves restoring ties with Turkey, by other countries, such as Denmark and Spain, were likely to veto application on the ground that Turkey does not have sufficient standards of trade union freedom, the sources said.

Israel charges Vanunu with espionage

TEL AVIV (R) — Mordchai Vanunu, the former nuclear technician who told a British newspaper Israel was producing atomic weapons, was charged Friday with espionage, aiding an enemy in war and divulging state secrets.

At a brief session in the Jerusalem district court, in which the absent prisoner was represented by his lawyer, Amnon Zachroni, state prosecutors asked that he be remanded in custody until the end of his trial.

Vanunu, spirited back to Israel in October in unexplained circumstances by the Mossad secret service, is expected to appear in court when the request is considered on Sunday.

The indictment charged Vanunu, 31, with helping an enemy in wartime, an offence which can carry the death penalty.

But jurists say Israel would apply the death penalty only if it were actually involved in hostilities.

The two other counts — "aggravated espionage" and

"unauthorised disclosure of secret material with intent to harm state security" — both carry a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

Although there are no hostilities at present, a state of war officially exists between Israel and several neighbouring Arab states.

Israel announced it was holding Vanunu on Nov. 9, six weeks after he vanished from a London hotel after telling the Sunday Times that atomic bombs were being produced at the Dimona nuclear reactor where he worked for 10 years.

Some press reports said he had been grabbed by Israeli agents and smuggled out of Britain. Others said he had been lured by a woman onto a yacht and overpowered when the boat entered international waters.

Israel has refused to say how Vanunu was brought back but has told the British government he left Britain of his own free will and no British law was broken.

The affair sparked strong

criticism in Israel of the security services who allowed Vanunu to continue in his post at Dimona after it was known he was a left-wing activist who took part in pro-Palestinian demonstrations.

After his eventual dismissal from the plant last year he was able to leave the country and emigrate to Australia, where he converted from Judaism to Christianity.

After the Sunday Times published its report, Israel issued a brief statement saying it would not be the first country to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East.

But the government refused to comment on the substance of Vanunu's detailed allegations that it had been producing nuclear warheads at Dimona for the last 20 years.

Meanwhile an Australian priest Friday launched an appeal for funds to defend the Israeli nuclear technician accused of breaking Israeli law by passing atomic secrets to a British newspaper.

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PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 — Arabic series

15:35 — Programme Review

15:55 — Cartoons and children programmes

16:15 — Traffic Instructions

16:20 — Scientific programme (Arabic)

16:45 — Circus

17:15 — Local programme

17:30 — Teaching French

18:20 — Arabic series

19:15 — Family programme

19:45 — Programme review

20:30 — News in Arabic

20:45 — Iraq Newsflash

20:50 — Arabic series

21:30 — Local programme

22:05 — Tomorrow's programmes

22:15 — Arabic play

22:40 — News Summary in Arabic

23:10 — Play continued

23:30 — Play continued

23:50 — Play continued

24:10 — Play continued

24:30 — Play continued

24:50 — Play continued

25:10 — Play continued

25:30 — Play continued

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BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1232 KHz

06:00 Newsflash 06:30 Here's Hamph

06:45 Reflections 07:00 Financial News

07:00 World News 07:30 24 Hours

07:45 The World Today 08:00

08:15 Newsflash 08:30 World News

08:45 24 Hours 09:00 Newsflash

09:15 From the Weeklies 09:45 Network

10:00 10:00 World News 10:05

Reflections 10:15 Tenor and Bassline

11:00 World News 11:05 British Press

Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30

Financial News; Look Ahead 11:45

About Britain 12:00 News Summary;

Here's Hamph 12:15 Letter from

America 12:30 People and Politics 12:45

Letter from America 13:00 World News

13:05 Sports Round-up 13:15 Great

Organisms Play Back 13:15 Meridian

14:00 Radio Newsflash 14:15 Multitask

14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World

News 15:05 24 Hours News Summary

15:30 Network UK 15:45 Country Style

16:00 News Summary; Music News 16:30

Album Time 17:00 Local Newsflash

17:15 Saturday Special 18:00 World

News 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00

World News 19:05 Saturday Special 19:45

Book Choice 19:50 News Summary;

Saturday Special 19:45 Sports

Round-up 20:00 Newsflash 20:30 From

the Week: 20:45 News Summary;

Play of the Week: 21:00 21:45 Every

day a Holy Day 22:00 World News

22:05 Twenty-four Hours: News

Summary 23:00 News Summary;

Writers at Work 23:15 Sounds of the

Shades 23:30 People and Politics

23:50 Newsflash 24:00

24:10 Newsflash 24:30

24:45 Newsflash 25:00

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

"An exhibition of contemporary art in the Federal Republic of Germany at the Petra Bank Gallery (until Nov. 29).

"An art exhibition by Ay-d Al Nimr at the French Cultural Centre (until Dec. 4).

"An exhibition of paintings by Rula Shalhaby at the Royal Cultural Centre.

ITALIAN FILM WEEK

"Italian films daily at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 4).

Tonight's film: "Tutta colpa dei paradisi" (Blame it on paradise).

FILM

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan remembers assassinated premier

AMMAN (Petra) — Friday marked the 15th anniversary of the assassination of Wasfi Al Tal. Mr. Al Tal was assassinated in Cairo in 1971 while he was attending meetings of the Arab ministers of defence in his capacity as Jordan's prime minister. The late premier was one of Jordan's dedicated politicians who contributed to the progress and prosperity of the Kingdom.

43 sit for first auditors' exam

AMMAN (Petra) — Forty-three Jordanians on Thursday sat for auditors' exam. The exam, which was held at the University of Jordan Faculty of Commerce and Economy, was held for the first time in the Kingdom and in accordance with the 1985 law on professional practising which considers the exam as a "basic criteria" for the candidate's admittance into his/her respective job. Questions in the paper touched on financial and economic legislations regarding income, insurance methods and commercial auditing.

Mayor presents shield to local author

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh has presented the city of Amman shield to Jordanian retired serviceman Arslan Ramadan in recognition of his efforts in publishing a book entitled "Amman, past and present." The book, which was published in 1984, includes a detailed review of the socio-economic development the capital has witnessed from the 1920's to the 1980's through photos depicting past and present aspects of the city. Mr. Ramadan has been acclaimed for his various works and documents as well as his collection of photos on Jordan. He has published a number of books on the life in the Jordanian village and birds. He also held a number of exhibitions displaying his collection of old and new photos.

Solar, wind energy talks open today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A specialised five-day conference on the use of solar and wind energy in rural areas of West Asia will open here today at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources. The meeting is organised by the ministry and the United Nations committee on socio-economic affairs in West Asia in cooperation with the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP). The five-day seminar aims at reviewing the latest techniques in solar and wind energy, their applications in West Asia's rural areas and to discuss the possibilities of more cooperation between Asian countries in this area.

Prominent lawyer laid to rest

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prominent Jordanian lawyer and political activist Shaker Al Taleb was laid to rest on Friday in his hometown of Al-Zuhri, near Salt.



Shaker Al Taleb

Pessimism over 9-point plan

(Continued from page 1)

would regain control of Maghdoush. The Palestinians have said that they would evacuate Maghdoush only in return for Amal lifting its siege of the Rashidiyah camp further south near Tyre.

The truce proposal provided for Lebanese police and security forces to supervise the ceasefire and the withdrawal of rival fighters.

According to the agreement, supplies were to leave Sidon on the 27th Saturday and together with ambulances enter the Rashidiyah camp, where, Palestinians say, many Palestinians wounded in fighting were deprived of medical aid. The ambush on Maghdoush was aimed at relieving Amal pressure on the camp, according to Palestinian spokesmen.

Another provision in the truce proposal was for forces controlled by Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Jumblatt to advance the coastal highway from Beirut to the south and "safeguard free movement through Sidon."

Amal-Palestinian fighting at the Beirut camps of Bourj Al Barajneh and Shattila was to be ended on Sunday, according to the proposal.

The draft accord said Lebanon's

Fayez reaffirms rejection

(Continued from page 1)

On the Iran-Iraq war, Mr. Fayez said France supported Iraq's call for a peaceful settlement to the six-year-old war and understood the need for pressure on Tehran to come to the negotiating table. He said French leaders assured him during his talks that recent French moves towards improving Paris-Tehran relations would not have any adverse effect on French-Iraqi relations nor aggravate the war in the Gulf.

Mr. Fayez said the parliamentary delegation was extended a warm welcome and hospitality in France and expressed hope the visit would contribute to enhancing Arab-French relations, especially that Jordan was the current chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) and also a member of the International Parliamentary Union.

Mr. Fayez, in his talks with Mr. Raymond on Thursday, reaffirmed Jordan's firm stand against terrorism.

Senate refers seven draft laws to financial and legal committees

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Thursday referred seven draft laws, two loan agreements from Arab funds and amendments to the Aqaba Railway Corporation law to its committees. The draft laws, as forwarded to the Senate by the Lower House of Parliament, will be discussed and evaluated by the Senate's financial and legal committees before final endorsement.

Senate members raised few comments on the draft laws during Thursday's 20-minute session which was presided over by Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi. They voted unanimously in favour of referring a 1986 amendment to a draft law on the Aqaba Railway Corporation to the committee during the session which was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Cabinet ministers.

Under the amendment, as endorsed by the House, the corporation's authority was

extended to cover all railways linking the Kingdom's south with Amman.

Other draft laws referred to the legal committee were temporary amendments introduced in 1977 and 1986 on the municipalities law and another amendment to the civil servants' pensions.

According to the amendment to the 1977 municipal law, any municipal employee is banned from nominating himself for municipal elections unless he or she submits their resignation 10 days prior to the scheduled nomination day. Another amendment stated that any head of a municipal council is not entitled to maintain his post for more than two consecutive terms.

The laws which committee Senate's financial committee during Thursday's calm session were two agreements between Jordan, the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development and Saudi Fund for Development covering loans for financing a project to develop the Zarqa River Basin and the Zara-Ghor

Haditha highway.

One minute silence

At the outset of the session, the Senate members observed a one minute of silence to mourn the passing away of Anwar Nuseibeh, who died in Jerusalem last week.

The minute of silence and a prayer of Koranic verse, "Al-Fatiha" were requested by Senate Member Ali Hassan Odeh. The late Mr. Nuseibeh, a former minister and member of Parliament, was well known and respected for his efforts to thwart Israel's continued drive to confiscate the Jerusalem District Electricity Company.

The Senate also named Senate members Hassan Al Kayed as new member in the legal committee, Senate member Mohammad Ali Bdeir as new member in the financial committee and Dr. Hazem Nuseibeh as member of the Senate's foreign affairs committee. Both Mr. Kayed and Mr. Bdeir were also nominated as members of the committees on education and social services.

American Muslims appeal for hostages' release

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An American Muslim delegation is expected to leave for Beirut on Sunday to negotiate the release of foreign hostages held by Lebanese factions, a member of the delegation said on Friday.

Secretary General of the New York-based National Council on Islamic Affairs Dr. Mohammad Mahdi, who is heading the delegation which arrived here on Wednesday, said that the team's endeavour was expected "to be 70 per cent successful."

"Our minimum aim is to bring back one hostage or at least a promise by the abductors that they will free one by Christmas," Dr. Mahdi told a press conference.

He said that the council had already sent a message to the kidnappers in Beirut and although the council has not yet received a reply, Dr. Mahdi said he was confident the delegation would be received "as guests" by the abductors. "On behalf of America's eight million Muslims and Arabs, we are going to

approach the kidnappers through an individual to individual dialogue without any government involvement," Dr. Mahdi underlined.

He charged that the hostages crises came about as a result of "government mismanagement, namely the U.S. administration's blunders in Lebanon."

On their mission to Beirut, the delegation will take a copy of Koran and will show the kidnappers the Koranic verse which says: "You who believe, do not permit the wrongdoings of others to make you do wrong acts," Dr. Mahdi said. He pointed out there is no reason to hold anyone in captivity just because his country has committed an aggression against another country.

Dr. Mahdi said he had an oral message to the American hostage Terry Anderson from his sister Peggy.

Commenting on the U.S. arms deal to Tehran, Dr. Mahdi said the U.S.-Iran connection had jeopardised the possibility of freeing more American hostages.

Pharmacists end congress in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Petra) — A four-day conference for Arab pharmaceutical unions has concluded in Baghdad after discussions on the role of pharmacists, in economic development and means of strengthening their participation in the development process in addition to their role in protecting the environment.

The congress, representing 12 pharmaceutical institutions and 17 Arab professional unions, including Jordan, nominated the Jordanian pharmacist, Mr. Amin Shauqir for the Arab pharmacists award, a medal conferred upon pharmacists who have rendered significant services and contributions to pharmacy sciences. Conference also awarded a merit certificate to Dr. Najib Naji, dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology at the newly-established University of Science and Technology, in appreciation of his contribution to the fields of scientific research and studies.

Speaking about the conference, Dr. Abdul Fattah Tubeishat, head of Jordan's delegation to the conference, said participants discussed many subjects related to pharmacists' contribution to economic development, the protection of the environment, clinical pharmacy and other subjects related to military pharmacy and cosmetics.

Workshop on building designs to withstand tremors ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A five-day workshop on the design of earthquake-resistant buildings concluded here late Thursday evening after extensive discussions on issues related to the theme of the meeting. The foreign participants were still leaving Amman for their respective destinations on Friday.

The event, which was jointly organised by the Royal Scientific Society in cooperation with the Turkish Scientific and Technical Research Council (TUBITAK), discussed various subjects relating to earthquakes and building construction. All presentations were followed by panel discussions to facilitate an exchange of ideas among theorists and builders attending the meeting.

Dr. Arafat Tamimi, adviser to the RSS president, later distributed certificates to a number of the participants in the workshop.

Over 80 participants from Jordan, Turkey, North Yemen and Iraq attended a series of 14 lectures related to designing buildings which can withstand the effects of tremors and earthquakes.

Mr. Hawari added that the ministry will construct these schools as part of a plan to build 40 schools in various districts and governorates of Jordan at a cost of JD 13 million. He added that the project will be partly funded by the Jordanian treasury and by a

special contribution from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Mr. Hawari said that the government will contribute JD 3 million towards this project, while the balance will be covered by USAID.

Mr. Hawari added that the schools have been divided among eight groups, and that the construction work of the 40 schools will be completed by the end of 1988.

The agreements were signed for the ministry by Mr. Hawari and for the companies by their respective directors.

New chamber of commerce board to elect president soon

Losing candidates say they will contest result of election

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The newly elected 12-member board of directors of the Amman Chamber of Commerce will "meet soon" to name their president, vice president and treasurer, Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply Rajai Muasher said on Friday.

The new board will meet in the coming four days and as soon as the ministry gets an official notification of the election results from Amman Governor Ahmad Al Hindawi, who supervised the election's committee, Dr. Muasher said.

The race between the 42 candidates ended on Thursday morning with Hamdi Tabba'a, former president of the chamber securing 1,051 votes and his closest rivals Haidar Murad and Mohammad Abdul Qader Al Haj Deeb winning 1,034 and 839 votes respectively. Out of almost 14,000 registered members of the chamber, only 2,467 votes were cast.

The other nine winners secured the following votes: Salim Khirfan 682, Riad Al Saidi 681, Mohammad Al Himsi 627, Adnan Darwazah 620, Ahmad Ghunaim 601, Mohammad Hadi Asfour 561, Mohammad Al Zibdeh 557, Samir Al Muasher 542 and Hani Al Haj Hassan 537.

Both Mr. Haj Hassan and Mr. Saqr Hassan Gheith secured the same number of votes and to break the tie between the two, Mr. Hindawi conducted a tie breaker in accordance with the chamber's internal law. The names of the two candidates were written on two separate pieces of paper and Mr. Hindawi drew Mr. Haj Hassan's name in the draw.

The elections for the chamber's 18th session were described by Jordanian businessmen and observers as the longest, most heated and well-campaigned for elections during the chamber's 63-year history.

Some of the contestants were grouped in blocs; Mr. Tabba'a formed a 12-member "Cooperative Bloc" and former vice-president Mr. Haj Deeb formed a 10-member "Economic Bloc." Apart from the two major blocs and other independent candidates, a four-member independent group was formed comprising Jamal Barakat, Jamal Abdo Naqawah, Omar Bdeir and Ma'moun Toukan.

Three-secret ballot boxes were set up for voters and the vote casting started on Tuesday morning from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Mr. Hindawi later decided to extend the voting until midnight to allow more voters to cast their ballots. The counting of votes under the chairmanship of Mr. Hindawi lasted from 10:00 a.m. Wednesday morning and until 7:30 a.m. on Thursday morning with the announcement of the final results.

In response to criticism over why no other sub-committees were formed to facilitate the polling process and to allow more voters to cast their votes, Mr. Hindawi said only one supervisory

committee could be formed in accordance with the chamber's internal law.

When the results were being announced, there was a consensus among the winners that the first issue to be tackled by the new board of directors should be to amend the chamber's election law to allow for the formation of such sub-committees.

A number of the candidates who lost said they were not satisfied with the election process since it did not allow the almost 14,000 registered members at the chamber to vote and said they would contest the election's results.

They charged that thousands of voters could not cast their votes due to the short duration of balloting and because one election supervisory committee could not handle the numerous voters.

Another losing contender said that the security forces closed the chamber's doors at 11:30 p.m. on Tuesday although voting had been extended to midnight. Observers at the chamber's headquarters said doors were closed at 11:30 and that there was a queue of people still casting their votes at that time.

In response to these comments, Dr. Muasher said the election process was "100 per cent legal," but agreed that there was some confusion due to the absence of sub-committees to supervise the process.

Dr. Muasher said he and the concerned authorities were ready to receive and study any claims expected to be filed by a number of the losing candidates.

Overfishing poses threat to Aqaba's marine environment

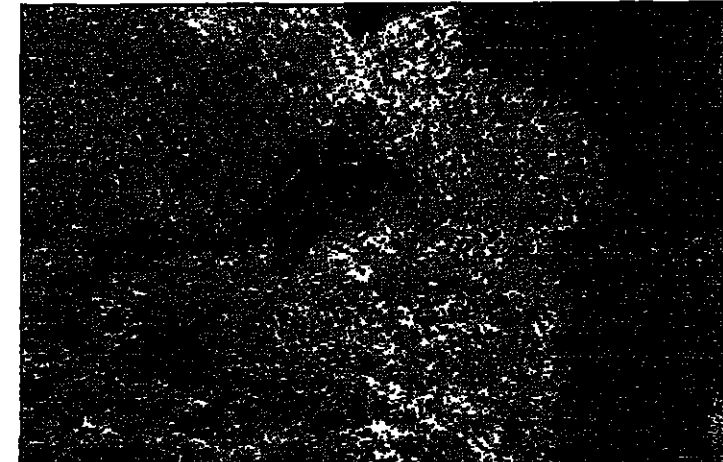
By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AQABA — The University of Jordan's marine station in Aqaba has completed several studies on environmental factors influencing the coral reefs, and according to the station's director Mohammad Wabbeh, there is no imminent threat to the existence of the reefs south of the harbour area. But, as the almost constant clouds of phosphate dust over the harbour indicate, phosphate pollution of the sea and the land around the phosphate loading berths is still unchecked and no solution is in sight in the foreseeable future, Dr. Wabbeh noted.

Presently, the major problem is overfishing of the Gulf of Aqaba, Dr. Wabbeh said that an agreement between Saudi Arabia and Jordan, which allowed fishermen to cross into Saudi Arabian waters for fishing, was cancelled some time ago, so that all fishing is now concentrated along Jordan's 26 kilometre coastline. The Gulf of Aqaba harbours an extremely diverse population of fish and other marine plant and animal life, but at the same time it is relatively oligotrophic, that is it produces small amounts of nutrients, so that within each species, there are only a very limited number of individuals. Dr. Wabbeh explained.

Upsetting the food chain

This means that overfishing a species could easily lead to it losing its reproductive power because of a too small number of fish left to guarantee the species' survival. The fish are also an important part of the aquatic food chain, and therefore the vanishing of any species necessarily has effects on the natural equilibrium



A diver explores the teeming life of the coral reef community (J.T. file photo)

of the marine environment, and these effects are not easily predictable, Dr. Wabbeh added.

The marine station is presently carrying out a programme to screen the fish population, including the assessment of stock with respect to growth and reproduction rates, and the commercial value of the fish. The programme turned out to be rather difficult to implement, Dr. Wabbeh said, as, due to excessive fishing, continuous observation of some fish breeds throughout at least one reproductive cycle is almost impossible. There are 14 fish breeds in the Gulf of Aqaba, which are favourites for eating, including mullet, lethrinids, seabreams and scarids.

New aquarium

The French experts are also here to help with a new design of the aquarium at the marine station, to be completed next Spring. The aquarium will then display a model of the coral reef and the tanks will show typical coral associations as well as most fish species, following the actual build-up of the reef and the sea bottom.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Disinformation against Arabs

THE European arena is witnessing these days a momentum which aims at convincing the European Community that the Arabs are behind terrorism in the world. That an Arab individual is synonymous to terrorism in order to place the Arabs as a target for hatred and doubts is a drive that both the Italian and Algerian foreign ministers warned against during their meeting on Thursday in Rome. What makes it more uncomprehensible is Israel's campaign to bill Arabs with terrorism despite the fact that the Arabs have continuously condemned all acts of terrorism. The present leaders of Israel are apparently resorting to the old Nazi propaganda policy which says: "lie and lie until people believe you." The Israeli propaganda, which leads this drive and which has implicated other European countries in its policy, are fully aware that their strategy of labelling the Arabs with terrorism is nothing but terrorism in itself. Moreover, the decision makers in Europe must be fully aware of that drive and its consequences. Those who have bet on Arab differences have lost their bet in the past and will lose again.

Al Dustour: Conspiracy or coincidence?

WHILE Amal Movement fighters continue their aggression on the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, the Israeli jet fighters simultaneously strike deep inside Lebanon hitting the Palestinian gatherings which have already been facing continuous siege and starvation for the last two months. Israel's raid on South Lebanon on Thursday was not just an incident coinciding with Amal's fierce attacks on the Palestinians, it looked like a coordinated action. Israeli air raids on the Palestinians of South Lebanon could only be looked upon as, at least, a means of support for Amal's aggression on the Palestinians. We call on all parties to the conflict to stop Israel and Amal Movement from proceeding with their war of attrition against the Palestinians.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Conspiracy against the Arabs

THE U.S. cannot wash its hands from the blood of tens of Iraqi citizens who fell martyrs as a result of Iran's surface-to-surface missile launched on Baghdad Wednesday. Nor can the U.S. distance itself from the process of widening the scope of the Iran-Iraq war, manifested by Iran's bombing of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) oil terminal at Bekouh. Those two crucial developments on the Iran-Iraq warfront were the result of America's covert arms deals with Iran, regardless of the missile's place of production. America's arms supplies to Iran were and still a green light by Washington to the Iranian regime to maintain their aggression and continue their war against Iraq. One can deduce from the latest crucial developments on the warfront that the U.S. involvement in the arms deal went beyond the declared objectives of releasing American hostages held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon. These implicit objectives are no doubt aimed at sharing a monopoly on the Gulf region and change the geopolitical map of the Arab World in the ground in order to deprive the Arabs of their prime source of energy. Therefore, we should realise that the U.S. involvement represents a reply to the Arabs' use of the oil weapon in 1973. Hence, there is a need for a deeper Arab understanding of the American conspiracy in order to thwart the U.S. plots aiming at monopolising the wealth of the Arab World.

Al Dustour: Israel's dirty role

AFTER Israel's conspicuous silence over the U.S.-Iran arms deals, Yitzhak Shamir broke the silence and confessed the Jewish state's role in the deals saying that it came upon request from Washington thus revealing the dirtiest role ever played by an arms broker in modern history. That is because Israel did not only ship the U.S. weapons to Iran but also transferred the profits from the American weapons to the contra rebels who are fighting Nicaragua's government. Transferring the funds to the contras is considered a violation of the U.S. law and a double-dealing with the Congress. Based on Israel's role, which has been described by the Jewish press as more like a role of a devil than a role of a broker, it has become an established fact the Israeli involvement in the Iran-Iraq war makes it a party to the war. After the implications of triangular connection have been revealed, Arabs should move from the current state of disinterest into supporting Iraq in its just and honourable war with Iran.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israel's terrorism

DESPITE Israel's continued attempts to look distanced, at least before the international community, from the ongoing aggression against the unarmed Arab people of the occupied territories, its direct intervention in the acts of terrorism in Jerusalem is being revealed day after day. In the past, when the Zionist terrorism was still developing on the hands of Ben Gurion, Dayan, Begin, Shamir and Sharon, they too had used the pretext of Israel's need for security to justify their terrorist acts against Arabs. But now when Israeli occupation has become a reality and there is no room for Israel's old mottoes, everyone realises that Israel is only built on terrorism, and that it is practising the policy of "bone breaking" of Palestinians in the occupied territories in order to evict the Arab inhabitants from their homeland and to deprive them of their identity. To abort Israel's drive, we should mobilise all Arab forces and draw the attention of the international community to the Jewish state's continued aggression.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

U.S.-Iran deal: A Machiavellian recognition of logic of power?

By Dr. Kamel S. Abu Jaber

IRAN, a nation of over 45 million people, is situated in one of the most strategic locations in the world. So strategic is its geographical position that it was always on the minds of would-be world conquerors from Alexander the Great through the Mongols, to Hitler in the twentieth century. In the nineteenth century, the British and Russian empires vied for influence over it, only to be replaced by the Americans and the Soviets in the twentieth century. Even in the nuclear age, its geopolitical position cannot be over-emphasised. Its strategic location as a buffer zone between East and West is further enhanced by its huge crude oil reserves estimated at around 80 billion barrels in 1980.

Like most countries of the Third World, Iran is experiencing the agonies of entering the modern age: What direction to take, East or West? Modernise or cling to traditionalism? Borrow from contemporary tools and values or look back and attempt to revive what once was?

The contrast between the past and present is too stark to require elaboration. Iran, once called Persia, is a nation with a long tradition, a distinct culture and an ancient civilisation with roots stretching all the way back to Cyrus in the sixth century B.C. Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was so intent on reviving that old culture that he lost sight of the present and of the needs and aspirations of his people. With the passage of time he isolated himself even from his closest followers and in effect imprisoned himself in his palace and within his own delusions of grandeur. He pushed so hard that his people became alienated in their own land. His westernisation programme

was not a genuine programme of development but rather a monument he wished to build to himself. The physical walls separating him from his people became a psychological barrier. They eventually exploded giving way to the Imam.

The names, the dresses, the outer appearances may have changed, but the essentials remain the same. The dream of resurrecting an ancient culture was transferred to the dream of building an Islamic state that knows no boundaries and respects no values other than its own. Iraq stood in the way, not out of rejection of Islamic values since it too is a Muslim country, but out of the recognition of the motives behind the facade: Iranian hegemony over the entire area, its people and its resources. Six years have passed since the eruption of the Gulf war, — a period that has witnessed some of the cruelest and bloodiest battles in modern times. This is also a period during which Iraq has repeatedly expressed its desire for a peaceful conclusion of the conflict and the resolution of all outstanding issues that fuelled it. The Iranian position, on the other hand, has remained as intransigent as ever. In essence Tehran is claiming the right to appoint the rulers of Iraq and perhaps those of the entire area in the future.

Iran sees nothing but evil in the West, and to it, the United States remains the "Great Satan." This view was reconfirmed once again in the wake of the "secret" trips made to Tehran by Mr. Robert McFarlane, the former national security adviser to president Ronald Reagan. However high the price in terms of exchanging arms for hostages, and regardless of the storm of indignation over the entire

affair, the United States seems to have undertaken a major shift in its policy towards Iran. Several factors account for this new policy direction, some more obvious than others. Surely the United States has all along been aware of Iran's strategic position and its oil reserves — factors that it chose to ignore or was forced to ignore since diplomatic relations between the two countries were severed. Another factor was the undercurrent of rapprochement between Iran and its northern neighbour, the Soviet Union, which was in turn sparked by the close relationship that the People's Republic of China was cultivating with Iran. The Iranians, adept at the art of diplomacy, were simply exploiting the possibilities. The Americans seeing that Iraq had succeeded in containing the Islamic revolution within Iran's borders thought the time was right to move. From their vantage point the mere request for arms on the part of Iran was a signal that realism had set in there.

This assessment, however, suffers from two basic flaws. First, it does not take into consideration the depth of ideological commitment on the part of the Iranian leadership. Second, it serves to further undermine whatever moderation may be left in the region. While the resumption of contacts may have been, even on this level, a Machiavellian recognition of the logic of power, it may yet prove to be a positive development should it lead to influencing the Iranian leadership to move to the negotiating table. What is in question here is the sale of arms to a regime that is intent upon carrying out its senseless aggression, not the right of any nation to resume diplomatic relations with whomever it chooses to do so.

Newly-fired North one of Reagan 'cowboys'

By Rodney Pinder
Retiree

WASHINGTON — Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, fired Tuesday for questionable activities in connection with the White House secret Iran operation, was known about Washington as one of President Reagan's "cowboys."

A highly decorated Vietnam marine veteran, he was one of a small group of action-minded White House staffers ever ready to undertake adventurous missions for their president in what they see as a global battle against the dark forces of Communism and revolutionary anti-Americanism.

Reagan indicated Tuesday that North had gone too far in his latest operation — to help renew ties with Iran, the country that calls the United States the great Satan, and save American hostages in Lebanon.

As a result, he has been relieved of his duties as deputy director for political and military affairs in Reagan's National Security Council (NSC).

But friends said high risk went with the job for the 43-year-old marine, whom they describe as a "gun ho" advocate of the conservative policies of 75-year-old Reagan.

Little is known about his work by the very nature of its secrecy, but accounts that have leaked

have involved North with spectacular and controversial operations, including:

— The 1980 attempt by President Jimmy Carter to rescue American hostages from Tehran. The bid ended in disaster when rescue helicopters crashed in the desert.

— President Reagan's invasion of Grenada in 1983 to overthrow the leftist government there.

— The mining of Nicaragua's harbours by CIA agents in late 1983 which created a furore and led to closer congressional oversight of White House clandestine activities.

— An unsuccessful revenge hunt for the guerrilla bombers who killed 241 U.S. marines in Beirut in 1983.

— The mid-air interception of an Egyptian airliner carrying guerrillas involved in last year's hijacking of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro.

— The April 15 U.S. air raid on alleged terrorist targets in Libya. Time magazine quoted an unidentified friend of "Ollie" North as saying he "is the prototype of the modern American hero. Wherever and whenever Americans are in trouble, sooner or later you will see him at the scene."

The New York Times quoted an associate as saying North, described as a bright and articulate officer who sees the world strictly in terms of black and

white, "reads the president's mind."

Another said, according to the newspaper, "Ollie is the one who pushes ideology very hard into practicality."

North graduated from the U.S. naval academy in 1968 and won the Silver Star, America's third highest decoration, when he was wounded in combat in Vietnam.

According to published accounts, he joined the National Security Council, the president's in-house defence and foreign policy team, in 1981 after being involved on the fringes of Carter's hostage rescue attempt as a marine corps major.

He became staff officer in charge of crisis management and took part in drawing up contingency plans for nuclear war and in organising the education of the new president, Reagan, on the realities of an atomic conflict.

North was promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1983 and became heavily involved in the administration's Central American policies, aimed at stemming what Reagan perceived to be a Communist encroachment in America's back yard.

According to congressional reports and news accounts, North was the administration's point man in assisting private U.S. efforts to send military aid to the contras during a congressional ban on such aid.

An ABC news report last

month said North also had approached Saudi Arabia and persuaded it to provide \$15 million in arms, food and medicine for the contras. The Saudi government has denied any knowledge of such an operation.

A report by Senator John Kerry, a Massachusetts Democrat and member of the Senate foreign relations committee last month offered a rare public glimpse of North's activities on behalf of the Nicaraguan rebels supported by Reagan — a dedication that evidently led to his downfall on Tuesday.

It said North was responsible for setting up a private network to help deliver arms to the contras.

"The private network established by North helped the contras with arms purchases, fund raising and enlistment of military trainers (advisers), after Congress, in October 1984, barred U.S. officials from directly or indirectly aiding the contras," the report said.

"Either U.S. officials have lied to the American people and violated the restrictions passed by Congress or private citizens have, with apparent impunity, violated U.S. laws designed to prevent private citizens from carrying out unauthorised weapons trafficking or military adventures abroad," it concluded.

The report raised no discernible administration response.

Rebellion stirs in Surinam

Aid from The Netherlands seems to have killed democracy in Surinam, the former Dutch colony. Ivo Dawany, recently in the country, tries to penetrate a dense political thicket.

AN eerie echo of Macbeth hangs about the isolated figure of Commander Desi Bouterse, absolute ruler of the tiny South American state of Surinam.

After five years of strutting the small local stage provided by 400,000 people in what was formerly Dutch Guyana, the commander's career has moved into a distinctly fearful phase. Not far from the peeling clapboard buildings of Paramaribo, his riverside capital, the inhabitants of Surinam's tropical forests are on the move, in support of a guerrilla rebellion.

Within the city, indications abound of a society falling apart. As supermarket shelves and government reserves empty, the morgue is filling up with the victims of mysterious death squads.

In October most foreign airlines abandoned their flights to the country, and even Surinam Airways' two 707s are forced to shelter at night for safety in foreign airports.

The five-year state of emergency, lifted by the government last spring as symbolic evidence of a return to normality, has been replaced by a state of siege imposed by the rebels.

If Mr. Bouterse's predicament has a vaguely Shakespearean air, his enemy belongs more to the pages of an Amsterdam guidebook. Mr. Ronnie Brunswijk, 35, leader of the uprising, is just the kind of

Surinamese tearaway one is advised to avoid in the Dutch capital's main square.

Mr. Brunswijk, formerly the commander's bodyguard and sometime chauffeur, claims that his motives are to avenge the humiliations he suffered in his former job, restore democracy, and, incidentally, to win a scholarship to a Dutch university.

Between these two men of action sit the people of Surinam — a racial pot-pourri bizarre even by Latin America's exacting standards. About 150,000 East Indians, Hindu and Muslim, co-exist with 80,000 Afro-European creoles and a mixed bag of Javanese, Chinese, Lebanese and Jews.

Additionally, 50,000 "bush negroes", descended from four tribes of escaped slaves, have lived free in the forests for some 200 years — and are now fighting for their right to continue to do so with the help of Mr. Brunswijk.

Until independence in 1975, this racial time-bomb was successfully defused by an aid-generous Dutch administration and a strong economic base supported by revenue from bauxite resources.

Even after the Surinamese somewhat hesitantly accepted their freedom, a \$1.7 billion, 10-year aid package from The Netherlands allowed the country a per capita gross domestic product of about \$3,700 — the highest in the continent.

Many now argue that it was the

Dutch kindness which killed democracy.

In February 1980, 16 dissident non-commissioned officers, thwarted in their attempts to found an army trade union, launched the coup which put Mr. Bouterse in power. As one witness put it: "They only wanted a candy bar, but they ended up with the store."

Others, dissatisfied with their share of the economic cake, at first enthusiastically backed the takeover. But growing industrial militancy, a halving of bauxite earnings from a 1980 high of \$60 million and the government's penchant for half-digested Marxist rhetoric quickly led to vociferous dissent.

In December 1982, just two months after a visit by Mr. Maurice Bishop, Grenada's ill-fated leader, Mr. Bouterse adopted a military solution to his political problem, rounding up and shooting 15 prominent opponents. His gesture traumatised the population, cut off Dutch aid and turned the commander into an international pariah.

As the middle classes cowered behind closed doors, the government appealed to the revolutionary left for support, but its brief flirtation with the Cubans ended rapidly. A brutally frank Brazilian military mission demanded and won their expulsion as the price for an \$18 million arms package and a quiet life.

Today, Mr. Bouterse is almost

Tropic of Trouble



Colonel Desi Bouterse alone. Of the 16 non-commissioned officers who led the coup, only two remain in key positions. The others have died in counter-coups, met with accidents or, in the case of his Banquo-like closest friend, Mr. Roy Horb, inexplicably "committed suicide."

Despite universal unpopularity, the commander succeeded earlier this year in knitting together a loose coalition of interests to set about writing a new constitution, which would allow elections next year.

But the emergence of Mr. Brunswijk suggests that this approach may have come too late — Financial Times feature.

Highly-placed smugglers

The following is an editorial that appeared in the Nov. 6 issue of the weekly community newspaper, North Raleigh Tribune, published in Raleigh, North Carolina, U.S.

IRAN is massing its troops for a new onslaught against Iraq. The assault weapon of Ayatollah Khomeini's unholy war is Iranian youth. Genocide of the young in the name of Allah. Blood for a fountain of martyrs outside Tehran.

But the soldier-victims are backed up with advanced American-made guns and planes. The guns and planes were left behind when the Shah escaped. Spare parts are now supplied, afresh, from America by smuggling stolen equipment and weapons from U.S. military installations.

The punishment for smuggling weapons that can kill hundreds of people is less than for armed robbery. The arms makers in this country would not be so unpatriotic as to sell directly to Iran, but they have not been above selling to shady middlemen with phony documents assuring that the weapons will go to neutral countries. The manufacturer's eye goes to the bottom line, not to the runway in an intermediary country where weapons are transferred to a plane bound for Tehran. The sale is beneficial to the U.S. trade deficit — but not to American interests if Khomeini wins and Shiite extremism spreads to the oil fields of Saudi Arabia.

The customs department has caught some gun smugglers by elaborate sting operations. But the Iranian air force is still flying and the tanks are still firing. Iran couldn't be fighting unless many vital parts and replacements were getting through.

"Let the Iranians and Iraqis kill each other," is the reaction of some Americans.

But the lingering resentment in the country against the Khomeini regime for holding our embassy officials hostage is a poor substitute for a tough policy to end gun smuggling to Iran, and to other hostile countries.

Is America for sale? Does the magic of the marketplace mean that American companies will, half-knowingly, put their wares up for sale in the soul of terrorism?

The eyes of Washington are fixed on the East-West Conflict. But the threat of international terrorism is growing. If sophisticated aircraft parts can easily be smuggled to Iran, why not parts for nuclear weapons?

The United States has rigorously prosecuted Soviet spies. Arms smugglers should not be able to get off with six-month sentences. America should stop supplying Khomeini's fountain of blood.

LETTERS

Edadi Mania persists

To the Editor:
I AM a student at the Abdul Hamid Sharaf School and have the Metric Edadi Exam. I am writing to say that there are many reasons why this test shouldn't exist, especially for students of our age. This exam comes at the beginning of our teenage years. The student has come into a new way of looking at life. Everything is becoming clearer to him or her in many aspects of life.

If we look at the other countries, pointing especially at America and Europe, or what people call the developed world, we won't find this test. This points out that there is something wrong. Why are our countries the ones to have this kind of test at this age? We also don't really need this test, since I believe we are already at a higher level in education than America and many other countries. I would like to say something about myself. Since the first day of school and before, parents and relatives have been nagging me every single day about the test, and how I should study hard for it. I feel like I'm going to go out of my mind. I'm beginning to loathe school and resent the country because of the exam; a feeling I never had before. Parents and relatives are in a race against each other. As we know, a person without a certificate is not respected unless he has money. Picture a horse race; we children are the horses and the parents are the riders. Each rider is pushing his horse to win the race. That's what is happening to us. In the end if we lose, we go to the Glue Factory; if we win, we just live on.

What is the point of having such a test? Is there any other substitute for it? Have you ever asked the teachers or the public about this test? As you know, the Holy Koran says that you must discuss matters with the others.

Firas Haddadin
Abdul Hamid Sharaf School
Amman

POSITION OPENING FINANCIAL ADVISOR

A diplomatic mission in Amman has a vacancy in a new programme focusing on the development of the private sector in Jordan. The incumbent's responsibilities will include advising mission of developments in the financial sector, and designing and implementing specific development projects.

Applicants must be Jordanian and have a masters' degree in business administration or a related field and a minimum of 5 years work experience in finance, banking, securities or other finance-related fields. Strong English skills (writing and speaking) are mandatory. Salary and grade range commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants should submit a one page introductory letter along with recent bio data to the Controller, P.O. Box 354, Amman, Jordan by December 15, 1986. Top candidates will be called for personal interviews.

POSITION OPENING ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

A diplomatic mission in Amman has a vacancy in a new programme focusing on the development of the private sector in Jordan.

Applicants must be Jordanian and have a masters' degree in business administration or a related field and a minimum of 5 years work experience in industry, commerce, and/or government agencies with direct private sector responsibilities. Strong English skills (writing and speaking) are mandatory. Salary range commensurate with qualification and experience. Interested applicants should submit one page introductory letter along with recent bio data to the:

The Controller
P.O. Box 354
Amman, Jordan

Deadline for submission is December 7, 1986. Top candidates will be called for personal interviews.

POSITION OPENING ASSISTANT ADP SPECIALIST

A diplomatic mission in Amman has a vacancy for an Assistant ADP Specialist. Incumbent is expected to operate a WANG VS-90 computer, assist in supporting computer users and maintain as well as develop software.

Applicant must be Jordanian with a university degree in computer science, a minimum of one year experience, with good working knowledge of COBOL programme. Strong English skills (writing and speaking) are required. Salary range commensurate with qualification and experience. Interested applicants should submit application and recent bio data to the:

The Controller
P.O. Box 354
Amman, Jordan

Deadline for submission is December 15, 1986. Top candidates will be called for personal interviews.



Talking straight Marwan Muasher

The hunt for Palme's killer: 8 months of investigation, no suspect

By Tony Clifton

HE was certainly the most famous and perhaps the most easily recognisable man in his country, and when he was murdered on a well-lit street in the centre of his own capital city, 39 witnesses saw something of what happened. Yet eight months after Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme was gunned down in Stockholm, his killer is still at large. When a leading newspaper conducted a street poll last week, it did not find a single person who believed the murderer would be caught.

It would take a confirmed optimist to predict that the police will catch the killer. One such is Stockholm Police Chief Hans Holmer, who broke a long silence about the case last week to tell Newsweek: "It's simple. I will catch him." He is looking for a man who, he says, is "about 40, six feet tall, maybe husky. I think he's still in Sweden."

This man followed Palme and his wife, Lisbeth, when they left a cinema in Sveavagen, a wide shopping street in central Stockholm, and began walking home. As they passed a brightly lit artists' supplies shop, the man walked up behind Palme and shot him between the shoulder blades, shattering his spine and rupturing a major artery. He died almost instantly. As Lisbeth bent over her husband, the killer stood quietly a few feet away, raised the gun and fired a second shot that tore through Lisbeth's clothing and grazed her shoulder. He then jogged away. "He was certainly a coldblooded killer," says Holmer. "But whether he was a professional killer is another question. You might ask whether a professional would have missed with his second shot, firing at such close range, whether his target was Mrs. Palme or the prime minister." Certainly the pistol used, a noisy Smith & Wesson .357 magnum, was not a professional's gun. It is a massive, noisy weapon, and in this case the killer was firing unusual copper-jacketed bullets originally designed to stop cars by shattering the engine block. The two spent bullets found at the scene are among the most important pieces of evidence the police have

EACH country has its public servants. Throughout history, there are always people who either by luck, or opportunity choose to pursue a career in public service. Whether they are driven by motives of fame, money, ideology or social work, the more ambitious of them end up in the public eye, and leave a mark on the country's social, economic, or political map.

No country in the world was ever short of such people. However, different countries choose to recognise its illustrious citizens differently. Some countries erect statues, declare national days, write history books, in addition to several other ways of remembering and recognising

the services of people who have contributed to its growth. Others choose to ignore their prominent citizens, either accidentally or intentionally, for various social and political reasons.

I write this as we hear of the recent death of an illustrious citizen of our own country, Mr. Anwar Nusabab, who died in his native home of Jerusalem. I also write this not particularly about Mr. Nusabab as much as it is about a phenomenon that I have noticed, and that was triggered by his death.

I first learnt about his death through a local paper, which carried the news item in the form of a short announcement by the prime minister. The

announcement stated that the Jordanian government, represented by the prime minister, regrets to announce the death of Mr. Nusabab, who held office in several Jordanian ministries and in parliament. Period. None of the papers cared to give us even a brief report about the life of a person who was a minister of education, a minister of construction, and several other portfolios I do not even know about, in addition to being an ambassador and a member of both houses of parliament. This is not to mention his status as a political veteran and leader, and the important and difficult position he held for the past seven years as chairman of the board of the Arab Jerusalem

Electricity Company, and his role in fighting the constant efforts by the Israeli authorities to take over the company. And thus his life ended, just like so many others did, with a regrettable neglect both from our official and local media.

I was watching the Israeli news on Sunday evening. It carried a full ten minute report on the life of Anwar Nusabab, together with a telegram from the president of Israel, describing Mr. Nusabab as "a proud Arab and Palestinian." I was so ashamed and furious that our enemy has the capacity of praising our political heroes better than we can.

I come from a much younger generation than that of Mr.

Nusabab. As such, I am not aware of the politics of the man, nor his contributions. But it does not take much to realise that he held influence, that he was a leader among his people, and that he served both the Palestinians and Jordan. Whether he was not given due recognition after his death is a result of carelessness on our part, or whether it was intentional is immaterial. The fact remains that it is inexcusable.

We have big flaws in the way we interpret history, and in the way we hold our values. It is important for me as an Arab to know about the great men who helped advance the Arab Nation thousands of years ago. It is equally important for me as an Arab and as a

Jordanian to equally learn about the great men of modern times who helped in the growth of my country and my nation fifty, forty, and ten years ago. To ignore their contributions, to try to diminish them is a great disservice to the country, on top of the fact that it is a forging of history.

If this fact of ignoring our public servants is a result of an unintentional flaw in our value system, then I suggest we take immediate action to correct the situation. This is a task where our government can do a lot. Our official media should take an active role in educating us about the people who contributed to our society. Our education system should include their deeds in

history books.

Dedicated and public-minded individuals might not ask or thrive on recognition by their country. But the country stands to lose a lot not recognising the efforts of its sons. We cannot continue to preach on national pride if the nation does not take pride in its citizens.

It is not that we do not know the art of praising people. On the contrary, we master it. However, it is important to give gratitude where it is due. Our country will never be in short supply of those who truly care for it, and who dedicate their lives to public service. It is time we acknowledged their presence.



Holmer with a sketch of the murderer

gathered.

Two minutes after Palme was shot, the first police car arrived. Eventually no fewer than 350 investigators were assigned to the case, and they turned up 39 witnesses to the crime, including an artist who drew an impression of the man she saw leaving the scene. But she was not sure if he was wearing a hat or a cap or was bareheaded, and tests showed that in the artificial lighting of the area, what looked like a blue jacket worn by the killer could also have been brown or green. There has been one arrest in the case, that of a 33-year-old former security guard, an extreme rightwinger who, according to Holmer, "hated Palme." The man was arrested just before Palme's funeral but released when it was clear he could not have committed the crime. Since then there have been no further arrests, and as Holmer says now, "When we didn't catch him in the first two minutes, our troubles began."

More knowledge

Investigators' troubles could be worse. In any crime, time is vital because memories dim as the days pass, and after eight months most people would have only the haziest idea of what they were doing at the time. But says Holmer: "Just as everyone in

America knows where he was and what he was doing when John Kennedy was shot, so any Swede will remember what he was doing when he heard Palme had been killed. In fact we know a lot more now than we did after the first week of the investigation. Our difficulties did not increase with the passing of time."

Holmer is probably also lucky he is working in Sweden, because even after these fruitless months there is no great pressure from the press or the public for him to show results — or resign. That is not to say that nobody cares. Says Claes Zetme, the chief prosecutor in the case, "We must solve this case because the answer concerns how we will live in this society in the future. We have always lived quietly, and something like this has never happened before." Another official, Per-Erik Nilsson, the justice ombudsman who is now carrying out an official inquiry into the way in which the case was handled, agrees. "It would be a disaster for the police if they don't catch this killer," he said. Like most Swedes, however, he awaits the result with some trepidation. "My first thought was, 'For God's sake, let it be a maniac.' But I don't think it will be."

Says Holmer, "Any crime where the prime minister is killed must be a political crime." Very early in the investigation, solitary maniacs, jealous husbands and ordinary muggers were ruled out. Since then a whole range of gallery of suspicious political organisations has been suggested or investigated: Swedish groups of the far left and far right, the CIA and the KGB, Red Army Faction terrorists in both West Germany and Japan, the Italian Red Brigades, the Chilean secret police and followers of American right-wing extremist Lyndon LaRouche.

Kurdish terrorists

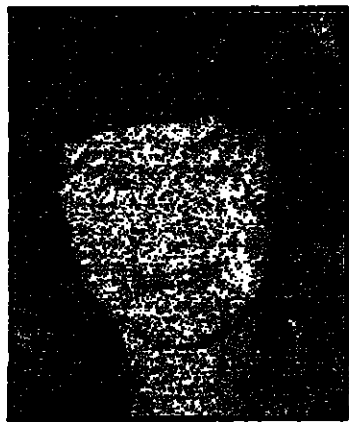
One group that is still among the major suspects is a shadowy organisation called the Parti Karkeren Kurd (PKK), the Kurdish Workers Party, a secretive militant communist group of Kurdish Turks. The PKK draws its Swedish members from among 7,000 Kurds, who are mainly refugees from Iran, Iraq and Turkey. Its membership in Sweden is probably no more than a few dozen. The group claims to have 5,000 members worldwide, but Western intelligence officials suggest that the figure actually may be only in the hundreds. A West German Interior Ministry

report published this year claims that the PKK leadership is based in Syria and that the group is armed by Syria and Libya.

Palme incurred the group's anger after two defectors from the PKK, then living in Sweden, were murdered in the country in 1984 and 1985. One man was shot at a bus stop in the university city of Uppsala in 1984 by a hit man imported for the task from West Germany. The second was shot as he attended a crowded public meeting of Kurds in a hall in central Stockholm in 1985. Both killers were convicted and are now serving life sentences. The government has also placed eight PKK members under a district arrest after declaring them to be terrorists. It was a typical Swedish gesture — keeping them in Sweden rather than deporting them to probable death in Turkey. Nonetheless, PKK spokesman Hussein Yildirim declared that the group would be "at war" with Sweden unless the terrorist label was lifted.

The police have never officially said the PKK was a prime suspect, although it has been mentioned as one of the groups under watch. However, foreign intelligence operatives, local journalists and diplomats all confirm that the PKK, acting on its own or with Swedish partners, has been high on the police list from the very beginning. One theory is that Palme was killed to deter any more defections or potential informers within the PKK. As one Western diplomat said this week, "They would not need to claim responsibility because the people they are trying to intimidate would know what happened. It would be an irony if a man like Palme was killed to make a point that only a dozen people would understand."

Meanwhile the search goes on, and so does the mourning for Sweden's fallen leader. Eight



Lisbeth Palme

months after his death, a small pyramid of red roses is refreshed daily at the spot where Olof Palme was killed, walking unguarded in the city where he always felt completely safe — Newsweek.

Lisbeth joins UNICEF

Lisbeth Palme, the widow of Sweden's assassinated prime minister, has been appointed chairman of the Swedish branch of UNICEF, the U.N. Children's Fund, the Foreign Ministry said Nov. 5. Palme, a child psychologist, "will be a great asset for UNICEF and its work for the children of the world," said Lena Hejlm-Wallen, Sweden's aid minister. She takes up the post, which involves the coordination of Sweden's work for the international fund, at the start of next year, the ministry said.

Saudis ready to take over jobs of outgoing foreigners

By Muhammad Seyed Muhammad Omar
Arab News

JEDDAH — Saudi Arabia's need for foreign manpower is largely over with the completion of most infrastructure projects and there will be a continuing decrease in the number of foreign employees in the country, according to a high official in the Interior Ministry.

Dr. Ibrahim Al Awaji, deputy interior minister, said in an interview recently that the authorities were trying to make sure that expatriates who had completed their contracts left the country.

"The need for foreign workers is decreasing since important projects, such as cities, airports, universities, roads and seaports have been completed," Al Awaji said.

"Foreign workers were recruited to implement development projects and create facilities," he reminded. "It is natural that when this has been

accomplished, these workers should leave. As you may have noticed, a large number of them have left after their work was completed."

Al Awaji explained that youths in large numbers are graduating from the Saudi universities and specialised institutions. "They are qualified to work in all sectors."

Al Awaji also spoke of the government's efforts to safeguard the rights of both employees and employers and its "constant surveillance" of employee-employer relationship in the country.

Regulations issued in this respect from time to time "are aimed at protecting the financial, medical and other rights of the workers, creating a suitable atmosphere for them to work in a satisfactory manner, and at the same time safeguarding the rights of the employers."

Al Awaji explained the method being followed by his ministry with regard to foreign employees. Each employee is registered, he said, and the system of registration has been computerised. "The ministry then follows up (again with the help of computers) to make sure that the employees are abiding by the rules and laws of the Kingdom and that they are performing the duties for which they were brought into the country."

"Violators or those overstaying illegally are deported," Al Awaji said.

Turning to other matters relating to expatriates, the official said children born to foreigners are no longer entitled to Saudi citizenship by virtue of their birth.

"In the past, a child born in the kingdom to non-Saudi parents would have special consideration and was treated independently from the rest of his family."

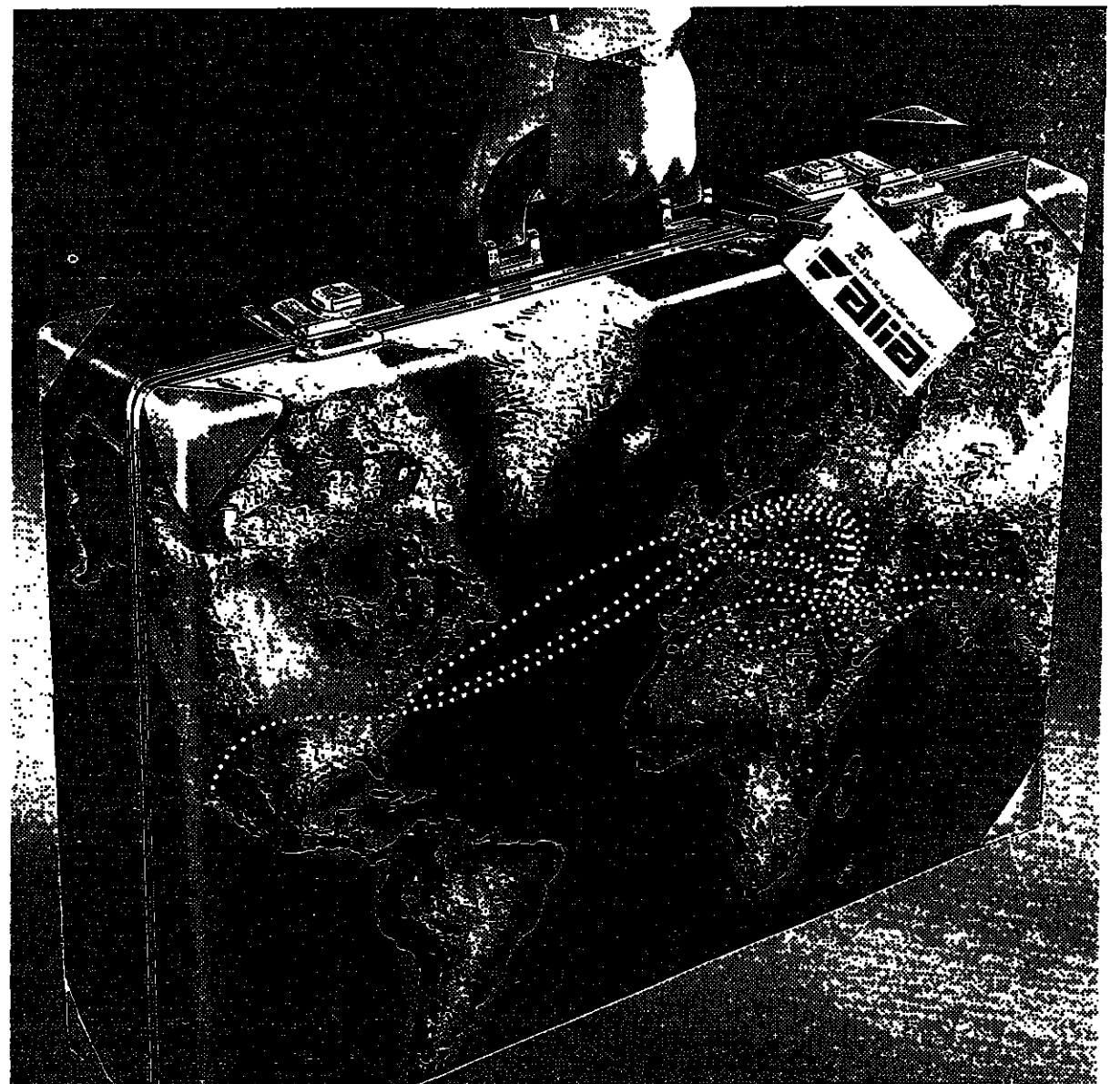
But now the newborn "will not have special consideration and will be considered along with the rest of the family, including parents, brothers and sisters, if they apply for Saudi citizenship."

Al Awaji said this was because the Saudi authorities believed that the past practice "split the family, since the child born in the kingdom was granted citizenship while his or her parents were retaining their original nationalities."

On the problem of drugs, Al Awaji said Saudi Arabia is largely free of the world menace "because of the thorough application of the Islamic Shariah, the awareness of the citizens about the hazards of drugs and their adherence to religion, which forbids the use of anything damaging to the health of body or mind."

Al Awaji also spoke about the specialised institutes run by the Interior Ministry, whose purpose is to train Saudi youths in various fields.

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England's Broad opens strongly against Aussies

PERTH, Australia (AP) — England opening batsman Chris Broad broke the Australian bowlers' hearts with a superb 146 on the opening day of the second ashes test at the WACA Ground Friday.

The tall, powerful Notts left-hander with venom in the bat, glanced, cut and drove faultlessly all day as the Australians laboured in hot weather.

At stumps Friday night England was 2-273 with Broad still there and his captain Mike Gatting on 11.

Broad's maiden test century included 23 boundaries. Only the prospect of a breakthrough with the second new ball, already five overs old, appears the only remaining ray of hope for the Australians who seem doomed to field all day Saturday, too.

Broad, 29, has already hit the best score by an England batsman on the WACA in tests, eclipsing the previous high of 131 by Brian Luckhurst in the 1970-71 series.

Broad and another 29-year-old, Bill Athey, passed the best opening stand in ashes tests on the WACA of 171, achieved by Geoff Boycott (70) and Luckhurst (131) also in 1970-71.

Broad is now set to pass his best first class score of 177 in county cricket two seasons ago.

Australia had a costly fielding lapse when England had only 24 runs on the board and Athey had made three.

Border dropped the Gloucestershire right-hander in slips.

But only Border could have made it a chance as the ace slips field diver desperately to his left to momentarily hold then lose the snick off Western Australia's Christ Matthews.

But David Boon's miss in slips off Greg Matthews when Athey was 91 left red faces all round.

Australia paid dearly for the lapses following the loss of the toss on a plumb batting track.

But another black mark on the Australians was the wayward bowling in Chris Matthews' early overs. Matthews' bowling was good in parts, but mainly bad in the early spell.

Border surprised by not opening with Bruce Reid as Geoff Lawson's partner.

But he further shocked by keeping Chris Matthews on

instead of sending him to fine leg to languish a while after the early shine-wasting overs.

Reid bowled seven overs in his first spell for only 13 runs and at tea had 0-19 off 13 with five maidens.

He was easily the best Australian bowler and rewarded his supporters with a purple patch in two successive overs, the 75th and 77th of the worn looking first new ball.

Reid yanked Athey when the Gloucester man was just four short of his maiden test century.

Athey's 286 minutes at the crease had been playing second fiddle to the more skilful Broad.

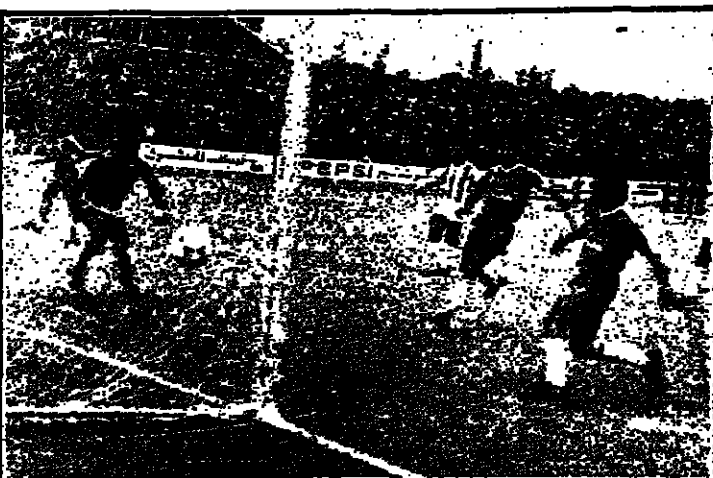
But few would have denied him his first 100 in tests after a debut in 1980.

Athey's 96 included 11 fours from 250 deliveries.

But the prize scalp of Allan Lamb was a bonus despite the heavy scoring of the day. The dangerous Lamb departed after facing just five balls.

The cocky right-hander flashed languidly at Reid and paid the penalty when a light snick went straight through to wicketkeeper Tim Zoehrer.

Skipper Mike Gatting had some early anxious moments and spent 29 minutes without scoring.



WINNING GOAL: Al Duffstein, downed Al Qadesia 2-0 Friday at Amman Stadium to move into second place in Jordan's Premier Division. Al Faisal earned the top position Thursday by defeating Al Qooqazi 1-0. In the photo, Al Duffstein's Taha Dieb scores the first goal virtually on an open net. Al Qadesia goalkeeper Mutaz Tawabeh tries vainly to position himself to stop the goal. To the left of Dieb is Al Duffstein's team captain Khalid Salim.

Some yachts accused of cheating in America's Cup

FREMANTLE, Australia (AP) — Some challenging syndicates are illegally receiving weather information from belt-clip pagers during America's Cup trial races, their Australian counterparts charge.

Two Australian syndicates reportedly have sought a ruling on the legality of the system and service, which is provided by a Perth-based company.

However, Stan Reid, chairman of the Royal Perth Yacht Club's America's Cup committee, said Friday that no specific complaints had been brought to the attention of his committee. And the syndicates making the charges refuse to name those they say are cheating.

The system provides constant variations in wind direction, wind speed and wave height from floating buoys adjacent to the America's Cup courses on the Indian Ocean north of Fremantle. Components to use the system are available from electronic companies.

Several syndicates, both defenders and challengers, have subscribed to the service since its inception and receive constant input for their weather data banks ashore and aboard their tenders.

The system allows the syndicates to legally transfer the latest pre-race weather assessments to the yacht's onboard computers by handing over a floppy disk minutes before the 10-minute starting signal is made before the race.

It is claimed that some of the

challengers have continued to receive weather information aboard their yachts after the race started, which is illegal.

Should a protest be lodged and the offender found guilty, the yacht and yachtsmen involved would face disqualification from the America's Cup and possibly worldwide suspension for what is considered cheating.

"We have been aware for several weeks now of the existence of a visual paging system which does provide weather information from certain points off the coast," Reid said.

"However, the conditions of the defender and challenger trials make it quite clear that when racing, a yacht may not receive any communications from off-board unless authorised by the race committee."

"Therefore, under the conditions which have been agreed to by all competitors, unless authorisation has been given, the use of weather information pagers is illegal during a race."

In another action, a request by the Taskforce '87 syndicate to reopen a protest hearing between Australia III and Kookaburra II has been refused. This means that the disqualification of Kookaburra II for sailing beyond her optimum layline will stand.

The syndicate had lost the protest which cost Kookaburra II the race and placed her one point behind Australia IV. If it had won the "protest, her victory" would have stood and she would have moved into second place at the end of the second round.

The decision not to reopen the hearing was made by the international jury which heard the protest.

Chinese female body-builders are a hit

SHENZHEN, China (R) — Cheers and whistles greeted China's first female body-building contest Friday as scantily-clad girls gyrated to the disco music of Michael Jackson and Tina Turner.

Thousands of Chinese crowded a gymnasium in this border town near Hong Kong as contestants flexed their muscles in China's first officially-sanctioned parade of bikini girls.

Most of the girls appeared shy and embarrassed, apparently stunned by the enthusiasm and thundering applause.

Some stood motionless until the judge reminded them to start their one-minute workout.

One girl told Reuters she took part in the contest despite opposition from her family and boyfriend. Zhang Xian, 22, a student from Canton, said she was told by friends that wearing bikinis in public was a "bad thing" and would affect her chance of finding a husband.

But China's top party newspaper the People's Daily did not agree, saying the bikini show was a "bold challenge against feudalistic attitudes."

Organisers were apparently embarrassed by a report in the same newspaper Thursday accusing them of trying to reap profits from the contest by charging each reporter an \$80 entrance fee.

Internazionale drew on all its traditional skills as masters of defensive soccer as it won 1-0 in Czechoslovakia against Dukla Prague, Italian world cup striker Alessandro Altobelli scoring the only goal with a rare flash of attacking skill after 18 minutes.

Spartak Moscow, expected to maintain the dazzling path cut through the Champions' Cup by Dynamo Kiev this season, only managed a 1-0 victory in its tie

Traditional giants show strength in Euro soccer

LONDON (R) — Barcelona and Internazionale Milan, two of the traditional giants of European soccer, justified their positions among the favourites for this season's UEFA Cup by sweeping to typically pragmatic away victories.

The Spanish League leader, beaten on penalties in last season's European Cup final, went some way to ensuring its place in the UEFA Cup quarter-finals next March, with an excellent 2-0 victory Wednesday night over Bayer Uerdingen in West Germany in its third round first leg match.

Welsh international striker Mark Hughes, who has struggled in the shadow of England's Gary Lineker since joining the Catalan club in the close season, proved his goal instinct remained intact with Barcelona's second goal in the 79th minute after midfielder Roberto Fernandez had opened the scoring only three minutes earlier.

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against Australia's modest Swarovski Tyrol. Andrei Rudakov was the marksman after 22 minutes.

Groningen of the Netherlands repeated the 1-0 scoreline with a similarly narrow win against Vitoria Guimaraes of Portugal who, unlike the Austrians, is likely to have the fire power at home to win the tie.

Scotland's duo, Glasgow Rangers and Dundee United, had mixed fortunes. Rangers, seeking its first European trophy since 1972, was held 1-1 by West Germany's Borussia Moenchengladbach while Dundee maintained its hopes of a place in the last eight with a 2-0 win over Hajduk Split.

Ian Durrant gave Rangers a 14th minute lead, but gifted young midfielder Uwe Rahm levelled the scores a minute before the interval to leave manager Graeme Souness facing a difficult second leg in two weeks' time.

Dundee United had less trouble overcoming the Yugoslav defence with Alan McNally and John Clark scoring in each half.

Italy's second representative Torino will face a difficult second leg in Belgium after conceding a late goal against Beveren. It led through goals from Antonio Comi and Ezio Rossi with only seven minutes remaining when former Liverpool striker David Fairclough fulfilled a goal back.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

U.S. maintains lead in Chess Olympiad

DUBAI (R) — The United States retained a full point lead in the 27th Chess Olympiad Friday when England had to settle for a draw in an adjourned 11th round game. English grandmaster John Nunn failed to win a promising end game against Mihai Suba of Romania. The Soviet Union is lying third, a point and a half behind the Americans, as the teams prepare for the 12th round of the 14-match event. Iceland will meet the United States on the top table while second-seeded England faces Poland and the top-ranked Soviet team takes on Spain. The women's event looks set to fall to the Soviet Union, the perennial champions, who have opened up a four and a half point lead with three rounds to go.

Japanese establish base camp

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — The Japanese winter expedition trying to scale Mt. Makalu set up its base camp at a height of 4,800 metres on Nov. 16, Nepal's tourism ministry said Friday. The two-man kamoshika dojin expedition, led by Yamada Noboru, 36, an electrical technician of Kawasaki, Japan, had left Katmandu for the base camp on Nov. 7. The team is planning to climb the 8,463-metre Mt. Makalu through the south face. Similarly, the Swiss expedition team to 8,091-metre Annapurna I established its base camp at 4,500 metres on Nov. 14, the ministry said.

McEnroe faces \$900,000 in taxes

WASHINGTON (R) — John McEnroe, who began a 42-day suspension from competitive tennis last week, has been handed a tax demand of more than \$900,000, his lawyers said. The U.S. Internal Revenue Service alleged in court Wednesday that the three-time Wimbledon champion and former world number one owed \$906,291 in taxes on his 1982 income. But his attorney, Richard Bronstein, said McEnroe had filed a petition to have the IRS ruling overturned and expected to settle without court action once able to present his case to the service.

English manager considering S. Arabia

LONDON (AP) — English soccer coach Don Howe said Thursday he was seriously considering a move to Saudi Arabia after being turned down as full-time assistant manager of England's national team. For the past six years, Howe has been part-time no. 2 to England managers Ron Greenwood and then Bobby Robson, while also taking charge of English First Division club Arsenal. But after Arsenal sacked Howe earlier this year, Robson asked the English Football Association to appoint him as full-time assistant manager. When that request was turned down by the F.A.'s international committee, Howe said he would continue to help Robson with England's team preparation on an informal basis, but would look elsewhere for a full-time job.

Zamalek takes 1st leg of Africa Cup

CAIRO (R) — Zamalek of Egypt overcame a shaky start to beat Africa Sports of the Ivory Coast 2-0 (half-time 1-0) and throwing away twice as many scoring chances, in the first leg of the African Champions' Cup final here Friday.

Zamalek, who won the cup in 1984 but bowed out last year in the semi-finals, made a nervous start with little imagination and "Sports" defence read its moves with relative ease.

The West Africans also gave the hosts several scares with swift counter-attacks that caught Zamalek's defence flat-footed

giving goalkeeper Tareq Abdul-Aleem little choice but to bring out his best early in the match.

Zamalek winger Tareq Yehia, however, had an early scoring chance 12 minutes into the match when Sports' goalkeeper Alain Gouamene recklessly threw the ball at his feet just outside the box.

Yehia, almost in disbelief, shot into Gouamene's body.

Cheered on by most of the 45,000 fans who watched the match at Cairo's International Stadium, Zamalek began to threaten Sports at the half-hour mark.

Hamadah Abdul-Latif sent a perfectly-weighted cross to striker Gamal Abdul-Hamid, unmarked and six yards away from target, but he failed to connect.

The white-shirted Egyptians, who go to Abidjan for the second leg on Dec. 21, made amends in the dying seconds of the first half, when a goal was already overdue.

Positioned among three Sports' defenders, midfielder Aiman Younis headed a cross swung over from the far left into Gouamene's body, then latched onto the rebound to ram the ball home.

Younis found the net again four minutes into the second half. Positioned far down the right hand side of the box, he received a pass from Abdul-Hamid, sent two defenders rushing in the wrong direction with a feint, then slammed home just inside the post.

Abdul-Latif, who came on in the 24th minute for Mohammed Helmi, unleashed a blazing drive shortly afterwards from more than 40 yards.

It is claimed that some of the

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Mass Is Over	3.12.86
A Love Story	4.12.86

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THE REPORT

(Arabic)

Performances 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 10:30

RAGHADAN

Tel: 672198

KARMA

(Indian)

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4360/700	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3843/48	Canadian dollars
	1.9765/75	West German marks
	2.2340/50	Dutch guilders
	1.6463/73	Swiss francs
	41.08/13	Belgian francs
	6.4750/4800	French francs
	1370/1371	Italian lire
	162.05/15	Japanese yen
	6.8750/8800	Swedish crowns
	7.4900/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.4675/4725	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	389.25/389.75	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed firmer after a quiet session and a mixed opening, with many operators reserving funds for the forthcoming British Gas flotation, dealers said.

The closing date for applications for British Gas is Dec. 3 and will be the largest share offer in the U.K. The flotation is expected to raise around £5.5 billion.

At 1530 GMT Friday the FTSE 100 share index was up 2.7 at 1,635.2 after opening little changed at 1,632.6. Among leaders, ICI gained 6p to 1,082 and Hawker Siddeley 8p to 445. Pilkington rose 3p to 616 but BTR lost a net 5p to 275. Grand Met jumped 16p to 473 on renewed bid speculation.

STC ended unchanged on balance at 170 despite news of a large order from Cable and Wireless worth around \$350 million. Cable closed a penny down at 326. Elsewhere in the electrical sector Ferranti lost a penny on balance at 97 after interims.

In the building sector Tarmac lost 9p to 422 after news it is to take up a 60 per cent interest in a joint venture in the U.S. The consideration of \$225 million will be financed by the issue of 40.36 million new ordinary shares.

Selected consumer stocks met demand with Dixons up 6p at 332 while in breweries Vaux Group added 13p to 508.

YOUR DAILY
Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 29, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day and evening when you are under good influences for studying the best means by which you can have pleasure. Be more expansive in your thoughts and ideas.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make practical plans that can bring more happiness into your life. Be concerned with your romantic life.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have to be more thoughtful and kind with a partner. Make yourself more charming to the public.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A good day to make your home clean and sparkling. Make any improvements that are needed.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Get your talents working more efficiently so that you can gain greater benefits.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You may have company tonight that can give you needed information. Treat them with respect.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Go to the right sources for the advice you need that will bring you happiness with the one you love.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study your possessions and know how to get better returns from them. Make your personal life more satisfying.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You like to get all the information you can on anything that is of interest to you, so do it today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Do whatever will most please the one you love, but do so secretly and surprise him, or her.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good friend can give you a good suggestion on how to gain a cherished longing. Be grateful.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be careful of your actions in the outside world and safeguard your reputation. Don't waste any money.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study into new interests and know how profitable they may be before you commit yourself to anything.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will easily worm information and facts out of others and would do well in any field of investigation or research. Teach this child to get rid of prejudices which could lessen the fine success possible during this lifetime. Permit participation in sports.

THE Daily Crossword by Hank Harrington

ACROSS

- 1 Betty
- 2 Forum wear
- 3 Condition
- 4 Spring
- 5 Walter Reuther
- 6 — firm
- 7 Heraldic band
- 8 Wind rush
- 9 Make different
- 10 Transportation for dogs?
- 11 Explosive
- 12 Everything
- 13 — room
- 14 Not quite meat
- 15 Impudent
- 16 Tax shelter
- 17 Island duck
- 18 Camel stop
- 19 Transportation papers for a president?
- 20 Bar legally
- 21 Direction
- 22 Map abbr.
- 23 Gutter
- 24 Best soup
- 25 Thesaurus entry: abbr.
- 26 Gender
- 27 "Norma" —
- 28 Transportation for inventor
- 29 EIT?
- 30 Ancient Gr. settlement
- 31 Round soft mass
- 32 Transaction
- 33 One who
- 34 Sled
- 35 Mr. Gardner
- 36 Reproductive cell
- 37 Broods of pheasants
- 38 Tinted

DOWN

- 1 Political
- 2 Flying prefix
- 3 Kind of story
- 4 Exc. wheat

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

1. BERRY
2. FORUM
3. CONDITION
4. SPRING
5. WALTER REUTHER
6. — FIRM
7. HERALDIC BAND
8. WIND RUSH
9. MAKE DIFFERENT
10. TRANSPORTATION FOR DOGS?
11. EXPLOSIVE
12. EVERYTHING
13. — ROOM
14. NOT QUITE MEAT
15. IMPUDENT
16. TAX SHELTER
17. ISLAND DUCK
18. CAMEL STOP
19. TRANSPORTATION PAPERS FOR A PRESIDENT?
20. BAR LEGALLY
21. DIRECTION
22. MAP ABBR.
23. GUTTER
24. BEST SOUP
25. THESAURUS ENTRY: ABBR.
26. GENDER
27. "NORMA" —
28. TRANSPORTATION FOR INVENTOR
29. EIT?
30. ANCIENT GR. SETTLEMENT
31. ROUND SOFT MASS
32. TRANSACTION
33. ONE WHO
34. SLED
35. MR. GARDNER
36. REPRODUCTIVE CELL
37. BROODS OF PHEASANTS
38. TINTED

DOWN

1. POLITICAL
2. FLYING PREFIX
3. KIND OF STORY
4. EXC. WHEAT

Egypt, IMF narrow differences

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and the

International Monetary Fund (IMF) have narrowed some of their differences in nearly five weeks of talks but have yet to reach agreement on terms for a standby credit programme.

Western diplomats said Thursday. Egypt, with a crippling foreign debt of \$38.6 billion, is seeking a standby credit of up to \$1 billion.

The last of the IMF delegates left Wednesday and the diplomats said some progress had been made. The IMF team is expected to return in January after consultations in Washington.

In return for the credit, the IMF wants Egypt to implement an economic reform package including unification of the multiple exchange rate and higher domestic interest rates. The diplomats said there was still no agreement on a time frame for unifying exchange rates or on the

interest rate issue.

Egyptian officials had hoped for agreement with the IMF before the new year, but the dismissal of Mr. Ali Lutfi as prime minister earlier this month slowed the talks down.

New Prime Minister Ataf Sedki said after his appointment he could not accept some of the IMF conditions. He did not specify which ones.

Other nagging problems are a \$4.5 billion military debt to the United States and outstanding military debts to the Soviet Union estimated at more than \$3 billion.

Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala left Washington Wednesday after two weeks during which he sought softer terms for repayment of the military debt, on which Egypt pays 14 per cent and a four per cent penalty for arrears.

Few details emerged on the

talks, but Cairo newspapers said

Washington, which pumps more than \$1 billion in economic and military aid into Egypt annually, had expressed understanding of Cairo's economic problems.

A Soviet economic delegation headed by state bank chief Viktor Demanisev is in Cairo to discuss a new trade protocol and the overdue debt, amassed in the 1960s and early 1970s, when the Russians were Egypt's main arms suppliers.

The Soviet team is also seeking a new exchange rate for trade with Egypt instead of the 0.40 pounds to the dollar which Egypt currently applies for trade with the Soviet Bloc.

Egypt calculates receipts from traditional exports, such as cotton and oil, at 0.70 pounds to the dollar while the commercial bank fluctuates around 1.35 pounds.

Austerity to continue in Greece

ATHENS (AP) — The Socialist government on Thursday unveiled a deficit budget for 1987 aimed at reducing inflation, public spending and tax evasion.

Finance Minister Dimitris Isiolvas, who presented the budget to parliament, said another year of austerity will bring inflation down to 10 per cent from around 18 per cent this year and also trim the current account deficit to \$1.25 billion from a predicted \$1.8 billion in 1986.

"The budget basically aims at speeding up procedures for structural economic changes that will set a steady course for future economic development," Mr. Isiolvas said in a statement.

Generous welfare and regional spending by the Socialists sent inflation spiralling past 20 per cent in 1985 while the current account deficit totalled a record \$3.3 billion.

The 1987 budget calls for total expenditures of 2,740 billion drachmas (\$19.57 billion) up 19 per cent from 1986, and forecasts revenues totalling 2,072 billion drachmas (\$14.8 billion), an increase of 21 per cent over 1986.

The 668 billion drachma (\$4.7 billion) deficit will arise from continuing government subsidies to loss-making state pension, health and transportation organisations, Mr. Isiolvas said.

The budget hikes defence outlays, already one of the highest among NATO member-countries in terms of gross national product (GNP), by 20 per cent. Defence

spending gets top priority in Greece because of a perceived military threat from Turkey, its NATO partner but rival for control of the Aegean Sea region.

Expenditures for health will rise by 31.4 per cent as the Socialists' national health system expands and for education by 13.6 per cent.

The government plans to increase revenues through a new crack-down on tax evasion, a chronic problem in Greece, and from boosting property taxes and settling longrunning tax disputes.

Greece expects to win approval next month from its European Community (EC) partners for the second half of a \$1.3 billion special loan on the basis of continued austerity.

The government predicts that next year the public sector borrowing requirement will be reduced to 10 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), down from 14 per cent this year.

But economic growth is expected to be negative in 1987, compared with a 0.5 increase this year.

Meanwhile, Greece will spend \$600 million to develop industry and protect the environment around the polluted Greek capital in a special EC programme for poorer member countries.

The 12-nation trade bloc will grant \$380 million in the latest integrated Mediterranean programme (IMP), while the government and the European

Investment Bank will contribute an additional \$220 million, National Economy Minister Costas Simitis said last week.

The programme includes \$14 million for the first phase of a planned 10-year, \$1.1 billion expansion of the outdated Athens-Piraeus subway line, the metro. It also provides \$11 million for improvements at Athens airport.

The Mediterranean programmes are a multi-billion dollar EC plan to boost agriculture, tourism, education and industrial infrastructure in its less developed regions, mostly in southern Europe.

According to the plan for Athens, \$133 million will be spent on controlling the spread of industry and protecting the environment. \$126 million on developing existing industry and \$81 million on tourism.

The project also calls for highway and port expansion in the congested Attica region, where 3.5 out of 10 million Greeks live and work.

Other IMPs programmes totalling nearly \$500 million for development in Crete and other Aegean islands already have been announced.

Greece in 1985 received \$420 million in regional aid from the EC, the third largest share in the Community. It has received \$1.5 billion from the Community's regional fund since joining the EC in 1981.

Swedes to pioneer joint ventures in USSR

MOSCOW (R) — The Swedish engineering firm Sandvik A.B. looks set to become the first Western company to start a joint venture in the Soviet Union under new rules decentralising foreign trade, a Sandvik spokeswoman said Friday.

She said the company was ready to sign an agreement with a tool-making enterprise in the Byelorussian city of Orsha on permanent joint production of "block tool systems" which are used for machine-manufacturing.

Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, has singled out the machine-building industry for particular criticism and said it has

a crucial role to play in

modernising the economy. Under the agreement, the Soviet side would retain a 51 per cent interest while the Swedish firm would have a 49 per cent stake, the spokeswoman said.

Details are only just beginning to emerge of the Soviet plan to set up joint ventures, first announced on Sept. 23.

It envisages greater freedom for Soviet enterprises in dealing directly with foreign firms, although all foreign trade will remain under the ultimate control of a new state commission, with measures freeing individual ministries to deal directly with

firms abroad.

Mr. Vladimir Kamentsev, head of the newly formed State Foreign Economics Commission, told visiting Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers last week that the scheme would start on a small scale next year and be developed if it proved a success.

No export quotas would be enforced and profit transfers to the West would be unrestricted, Mr. Lubbers quoted him as saying.

Mr. Lubbers said officials in Moscow told him Soviet foreign trade experts had closely watched reforms in other Communist countries and had learnt from their errors.

West fails to agree on deal to help developing countries

TOKYO (R) — Major industrial nations have given up trying to meet a self-imposed Nov. 30 deadline to come up with \$12 billion for the world's poor, diplomats and Japanese government officials said.

Instead, they have scheduled a meeting in Rome next month in hopes they can agree on increased contributions to the International Development Association (IDA).

IDA, which does not charge any interest on its loans to poor countries, has already secured concrete promises of support amounting to \$11.5 billion from its 34 donor countries.

It has been unable to sew up the extra \$500 million or more it had hoped to receive from a number of countries, including Japan.

Diplomats and Japanese officials said Tokyo and Washington have so far been

unable to agree on a deal that would trigger increased Japanese contributions to the World Bank affiliate.

At the last meeting of donor nations in September, Tokyo promised to provide an additional \$350 million to IDA, on top of the \$2.15 billion it has already pledged, provided its stake in the World Bank was increased some 1.5 per cent, officials said.

The United States provisionally agreed to give up some of its voting rights in the bank to Japan, but is seeking to wring concessions from Tokyo in other areas before giving the final go ahead, they

added. Specifically, Washington is pressing Tokyo to settle a three-year-long disagreement over the level of aid and credits industrial nations can provide to developing countries.

The United States says it wants the so-called consensus on the question among itself, Japan and Europe changed so that the development packages they provide do not distort free trade.

Tokyo agrees with the principle, but is afraid that some of the proposed changes would unduly penalise it and other countries with low interest rates.

But even if no agreement is reached on that prickly question next month, diplomats predicted that Tokyo will still go ahead with a promise of more money.

Indonesia offers new flexibility on investments

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia, severely hit by the slump in world oil prices, is offering new terms and a more flexible approach to foreign oil companies to try to boost investment and revive the flagging hunt for new fields.

Mr. Hardjoko Seputro, spokesman for Indonesia's mines and energy ministry, told Reuters that Jakarta has agreed to extend its standard 30-year-old production-sharing contract and is discussing with major foreign oil companies ways of easing regulations to boost investment.

He said President Suharto has agreed in principle to the extension of the production sharing contract to better reflect depressed conditions on the international oil market.

Indonesian Energy Minister Subroto is in the United States to discuss more flexible terms with major oil partners, he said.

Industry sources said Dr. Subroto was meeting executives from Chevron, Mobil Oil, Texaco, Union Oil and other companies in New York and Houston on reformulating contract requirements.

The discussions are designed to maintain oil industry interest in Indonesia at a time of lower global exploration and slumping oil prices which have fallen to \$14 from around \$28 per barrel in the past year.

As it gets 70 per cent of its export revenue from oil and gas sales, it has been heavily hit by the plunge in world crude prices. It was forced to devalue its currency by 31 per cent in September.

The latest talks follow demands from oil companies exploring in Indonesia for a more flexible approach to a variety of problems, including regulations regarding production and how the oil is shared with the Indonesian government.

Jakarta is worried by the slow pace of exploration, with production out-stripping new discoveries, Western analysts said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iraq, Oman to boost trade, economic ties

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq and Oman signed an accord Thursday to boost trade and economic relations, Baghdad radio reported. The agreement, reached within the framework of the Iraq-Omani joint committee for economic cooperation, is aimed at expanding trade volume and enhancing cooperation in economic and agricultural fields.

U.S. firm wins major job in Egypt

CORVALLIS, Oregon (AP) — An Oregon engineering company has landed a \$2 million contract to design major improvements in Cairo's public water system. Mr. Ken Bielman of the company CH2M Hill said that details will be worked out over the next two months with the General Organisation for the Greater Cairo Water Supply. Work is to begin early next year. Mr. Bielman said CH2M Hill will design a system of five reservoirs, several pumping stations and miles of underground water mains serving the east bank of the Nile River, where about two-thirds of the Egyptian capital's 12 million people live.

UNDP to give Bangladesh \$129 million

DHAKA (AP) — Bangladesh will receive \$128.8 million over five years from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) under an agreement signed last week. Officials said the funds would help this nation of 103 million people raise productivity in agriculture, consolidate and expand its industrial base and improve management of public policy. UNDP gave Bangladesh \$18.5 million in 1972, another \$44 million in 1977-80 and \$110 million in 1980-85.

Invisible trade masks British deficit

LONDON (AP) — Earnings from so-called invisible trade, such items as tourism, banking and insurance, pushed Britain's balance of trade into surplus in October, the government said last week. The department of trade and industry reported a current-account surplus of £65 million (\$91 million) in October. It follows two consecutive months in which Britain recorded trade deficits. Officials said the value of visible imports outpaced exports by £835 million (\$1.2 billion) in October, but the deficit was offset by a £900 million (\$1.3 billion) surplus in invisible trade.

Pennzoil to lay off 330 employees

NEW YORK (OPECNA) — Pennzoil, a diversified energy concern with headquarters in Houston, Texas, said last week it would permanently lay off about 330 employees in its oil and gas division by early December. Pennzoil, which has a total workforce of 6,600, announced last April that it would lay off 600 employees because of the sharp fall in oil and gas prices which had led to "complex problems" for the industry. A company spokesman said Pennzoil, which originally projected a capital budget of \$350 million for 1986, had pared actual expenditure to just \$130 million in the first nine months of the year.

Peanuts



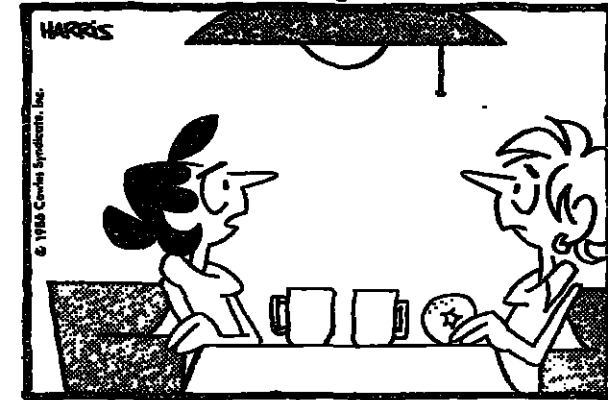
Mutt 'n' Jeff



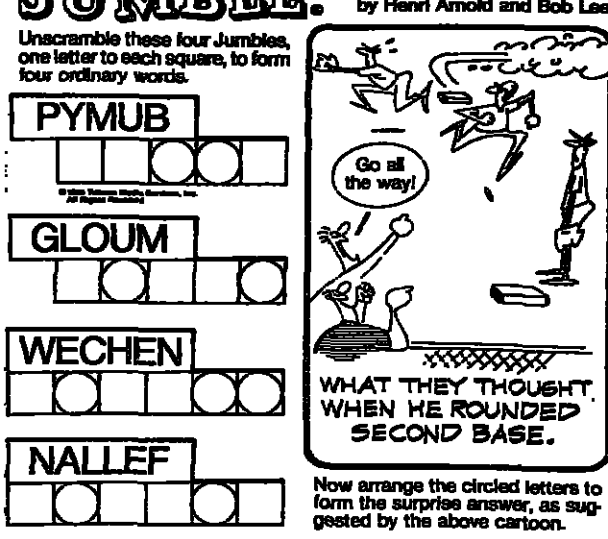
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



ANSWER: THERE'S NO LIKE (Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: JINGO SHEAF PILFER MUSEUM
Answer: What the heroic fireman became — "FLAM-OUS"

Gorbachev denounces U.S. breach of SALT-2 treaty

Soviet leader ends visit to India

NEW DELHI (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev denounced the U.S. move to breach the SALT-2 treaty on strategic nuclear weapons Friday as a "major mistake," but sounded a faintly optimistic note on the Afghan conflict.

Addressing a televised news conference at the end of a four-day visit to India, he said such a move by the Reagan administration would contradict the entire logic of last month's summit in Reykjavik and its own commitment to disarmament.

"If such a decision (to breach SALT-2) has been taken, we regard it as a major mistake that will make it more difficult to search for approaches to disarmament," he said. But he avoided the tough language he normally uses for U.S. arms policy.

The United States has said it planned to deploy a 131st B-52 bomber carrying nuclear cruise missiles Friday. This would breach the 1979 SALT-2 treaty which, though unratified, has been observed by both superpowers and is seen by some U.S. allies as a vital restraint on the arms race.

The 55-year-old Soviet Communist Party leader, addressing the conference with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, was in a moderate mood as he fielded questions on such topics as India's feuds with Pakistan and China and on Afghanistan.

On Afghanistan, where according to Western tallies the Soviet Union has over 115,000 soldiers, Mr. Gorbachev declared: "The prospects for resolution of this problem in the near future

exist, that is how we evaluate it." He hinted that U.N. mediator Diego Cordovez was making progress in his current shuttle mission between Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran.

"I think there is much new, both as regards Mr. Cordovez — movement is appearing there, in the meetings — and as regards the striving of governments, including the Soviet Union, that the problem be resolved," he said, declining to elaborate.

Mr. Gorbachev's visit has been marked by the extreme warmth of the Indian welcome and he and Mr. Gandhi, who had 10 hours of talks, said it reinforced the close ties between the two giant states.

During the visit the two sides called for a convention banning nuclear weapons and an international conference on making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

A joint statement said Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Gandhi found their positions on international issues were similar or identical.

But at the news conference Mr. Gorbachev was careful to avoid giving offence to either China or Pakistan, regional rivals of India.

Asked about a long-standing Sino-Indian frontier dispute east of Bhutan, he said it was for the two countries to resolve, and sought to quiet Indian concern over Moscow's attempts to woo

Peking. "What we are doing in improving relations with China will not weaken our relations with India," he said. "The better our relations with China, the better will be the overall atmosphere in the region."

On Pakistan, which has fought three wars with India in 40 years and is at odds with the Kremlin over Afghanistan, Mr. Gorbachev's approach was equally mild.

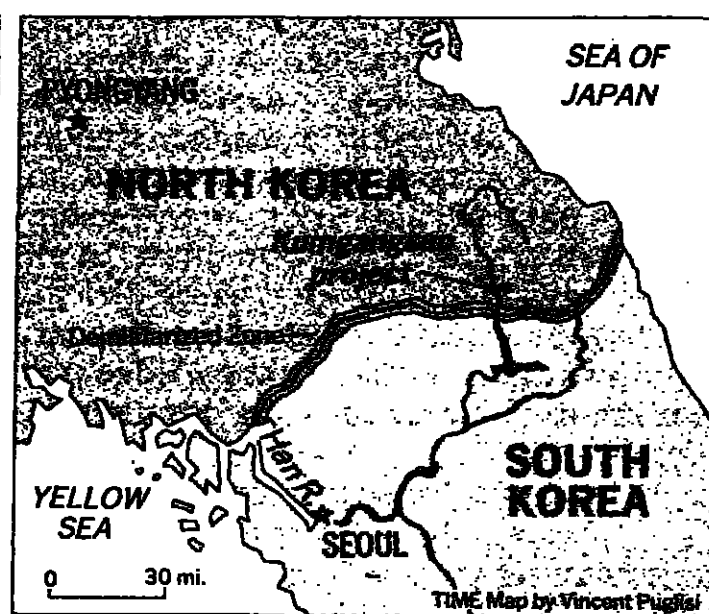
"We have always cooperated with Pakistan and when difficult moments arose, we made our contribution to removing tension in the region," he said. "We are ready to act in the same spirit now as well."

Mr. Gorbachev gave no further details of his proposal, in a speech to the Indian parliament Thursday, for measures to reduce the threat of conflict in Asia, including prior notification of military manoeuvres.

The joint statement said the Soviet delegation had explained its proposals for Asian security but the wording made clear the Indian side had reservations about associating itself with them.

During the visit the two governments signed agreements covering 1.5 billion roubles (\$2.1 billion) of Soviet credits for Indian energy projects and agreed to try and increase bilateral trade by two-and-a-half times by 1992.

Mr. Gorbachev left India Friday after a triumphant four-day visit. He left New Delhi after the joint news conference full of mutual expressions of friendship and promised to return to see more of India.



Seoul proposes talks with North over dam project

SEOUL (R) — South Korea urged North Korea again Friday to stop work on a controversial dam close to the border and proposed talks on developing rivers common to both sides.

Construction Minister Lee Kyu-Hyo suggested in a broadcast message that talks be held on Dec. 10 at the Panmunjom border village.

He said it was accepted practice for countries to cooperate in the use and development of common rivers.

"I believe that there can be no reason why we, who belong to one nation, cannot discuss and resolve questions of the use of a common river," he said in the message forwarded to Li Ji-Chan, chairman of North Korea's Electric Power Industry Commission and Administration Council.

The message was to have been delivered in Panmunjom but the North side refused to accept it, officials said.

Asking the North to stop work on the dam, on a tributary of the Han River which runs through Seoul, Mr. Lee said it could cause a water shortage and destroy the

ecological system along the basin of the Han south of the truce line.

"Moreover, if the dam were destroyed either on purpose or by accident, it would inflict a horrible loss of life and property along the Han River basin," he added.

Pyeongyang says its dam would not cause loss or inconvenience to the South.

South Korea has announced that it would build its own \$700 million dam on the upper reaches of the Han to counter the possible effects of the one built by the North.

Responding to Seoul's proposal, the North Korean Power Industry Commission said it would hold talks about the dam only if the South apologised for slandering Pyongyang.

The North Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo, quoted the commission as saying South Korea had been slandering it for a full month.

"We will discuss the question of the construction of the Kungangsan Power Station with the South Korean authorities only on condition that they admit their guilt and apologise to the nation, though belatedly," it said.

New test accurately shows 'all forms of cancer'

BOSTON (AP) — A new blood test can accurately detect all forms of cancer and may someday provide the first simple means of routinely screening people for the disease, doctors say.

Working with only small samples of blood, researchers were able to clearly distinguish cancer victims from people who were healthy or had a variety of other diseases.

"Our accuracy is well over 90 per cent," said the test's developer, Dr. Eric T. Fossel of Boston's Beth Israel Hospital. "It's much higher than any other blood test."

Fossel said the test might

someday become part of a routine physical exam. But he said studies first will be necessary on large number of people to learn whether the test will reveal cancer in its earliest, most treatable stages.

A test that will reveal minuscule cancerous lumps before they can be felt or show up on X-rays is a major quest of medicine, but until now it has eluded scientists.

Some tests will disclose substances that leak out of tumours, but none of these secretions is present in all kinds of cancer or clearly differentiates healthy people from those with the disease.

Controversy rages in U.K. over death of King George V

LONDON (R) — Controversy has raged in Britain over claims that King George V was given a lethal euthanasia injection as he suffered a mortal illness, partly so that his death could be reported in morning newspapers.

Channel Four television has said that the death 50 years ago of the 70-year-old monarch, grandfather of Queen Elizabeth, was hastened with an injection administered by his personal physician, Lord Dawson of Penn.

The report was based on an article, written by Dawson's biographer Francis Watson, due to appear in the journal *History* today next month.

Sir Douglas Black, a former president of the Royal College of Physicians, condemned Lord Dawson's reported action as "evil" and Kenneth Rose, King George V's official biographer,

told the Daily Telegraph newspaper the facts seemed beyond dispute, adding: "In my opinion the king was murdered by Dawson."

Watson's biography of Lord Dawson appeared in 1950, five years after the royal physician died. The 79-year-old biographer said he had not mentioned the lethal injection at the time because he did not want to embarrass Dawson's relatives or the royal family.

Speaking to reporters from his London home Wednesday night, Watson said: "I have given a lot of thought and, with the fact that this is the 50th anniversary of the death of King George V, it seemed to be the right time."

"I am surprised at the controversy and vehemence it has caused."

Astronomers see Black Hole shred a star

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State University (OSU) astronomers believe they have seen a Black Hole eat a star, a phenomenon that had been theorised but never observed.

The sighting indicates that astronomers are on the right track in their efforts to decipher the mystery of how galaxies are formed, said OSU astronomer Bradley Peterson.

Peterson, in a telephone interview Thursday, said he and fellow astronomer Gary Ferland saw the phenomenon begin two years ago when they were looking at the galaxy known as NGC5548 in search of data for another project.

When they looked through a 72-inch (183 cm) telescope in Flagstaff, Arizona, they saw the galaxy's nucleus start to glow more brightly.

Through electronic image dissection and spectroscopy, they determined that the growing brightness was caused by the introduction of new gases and that a star was being sucked into a Black Hole.

Pope chats with Australian children, meets destitutes

MELBOURNE, Australia (R) — In the warmest moments so far of a marathon foreign tour, Pope John Paul Friday candidly answered the probing questions of a class of schoolchildren and had an emotional meeting with destitute men.

The Pontiff also spoke out against abortion and euthanasia and warned that doctors must be subject to moral and ethical laws — a clear reference to the test tube baby research in which Melbourne is a world leader.

But the most informal moment of the Pope's six-nation odyssey came early in the day when he visited a Catholic school and was subjected to searching questioning by a class of nine and 10-year-olds who seemed for the most part totally at ease with the Pontiff despite the presence of a crowd of journalists and photographers.

The children, wearing red sweaters and blue trousers, gathered at the Pope's feet as he sat in a chair to answer their queries.

"Holy father could you please

point to where you were wounded?" one boy asked in a reference to the assassination attempt by Turkish gunman Mehmet Ali Agca in 1981. The Pontiff pointed to the side of his abdomen, smiling wryly.

Asked about what music he liked the Pope said he preferred classical music but added to laughter: "But I am not a man of the past. I am very interested in ... rock."

A boy called Jason, the class soccer star, asked the Pope whether he had played the game. "Ah yes, they say my preferred position was goalkeeper," said the Pontiff, who smiled throughout the meeting and made frequent jokes.

Asked how he could distinguish the different rooms in the Vatican, he said to more laughter: "Oh, I don't know ..." but he added more seriously: "For me it is much more interesting to know every one of you, you are temples ... and I prefer this kind of room to all the rooms in the Vatican."

Later in a total contrast, the Pope spoke to about 40 men at a

hostel for the homeless and destitute where there were emotional scenes as he led a prayer in the recreation room. Several of the men present cried openly during the encounter.

In a mass attended by around 110,000 people Friday at Melbourne's famous Flemington Racecourse, the Pope again spoke out against abortion and euthanasia saying: "It is not the quality of life, however important this may be, which makes life sacred but the very fact of our existence."

He added: "A community is decadent when it does not want children, when it does not love them and respect them."

Referring to Melbourne's prominent position in bio-technology of embryo research, the Pope said scientists must ensure that they used their skills in the service of humanity "to make sure that these never become false idols."

He added: "If science is ever separated from its moral and ethical demands it can never lead

Ceasefire accord seen as big triumph for Aquino

MANILA (R) — The ceasefire accord with Communist guerrillas in the Philippines is a major triumph President Corazon Aquino and caps her political victory last weekend over sacked Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

Mr. Enrile's departure cleared the way for the 60-day ceasefire agreement with the government which could give Asia's only Christian country its first Christmas without bloodshed for almost two decades.

More than 8,000 people have died in the past two years as thousands of Communist rebels waged war in 63 of country's 74 provinces.

The New People's Army (NPA), which took the field 17 years ago as a rag-tag band of ill-equipped rebels, has developed into a highly organised force, carrying out assassinations, ambushes and lightning raids, often against the superior firepower of government forces.

Many families fled the countryside in the bloody struggle against the heavy-handed rule of Philippine strongman Ferdinand Marcos.

The rebels started their campaign in 1969 under the leadership of Bernabe Buscayno, known as Commander Dante by his small peasant band, and Jose Maria Sison, who launched the pro-Peking Communist Party of the Philippines a year earlier in 1968.

The marriage of two organisations became the New People's Army on March 29, 1969, attracting radical students as well as embittered peasants from all over the country. However, within 18 months, both leaders were captured and jailed.

Despite that setback, NPA, feeding on widespread poverty, government neglect and military abuses, rapidly gained strength.

When Marcos declared martial law in 1972, still more Filipinos were drawn to the outlawed party and its military wing, which had become the most forceful outlets for the rising tide of anger and frustration with his regime.

At the outset, the NPA mainly on Luzon Island, in the north, which years before had been the battleground for another Communist rebellion that was crushed by the government.

They later spread to the south, particularly Mindanao, and distressed provinces in the central Philippines.

Military sources say the NPA, in spite of its ability to move in company-strength during a major offensive, was never a direct threat to the government.

The bloody campaign the NPA launched forced many families to seek refuge in less troubled parts of the country. Many of those that remained lost their jobs when factories closed in areas where the rebels were particularly active.

One officer said "people are tired of war and want peace and after the February revolution, many of them wanted to come down from the hills and savour the new-found freedom."

One of Mrs. Aquino's first acts as president after she took over from Marcos was to call for a ceasefire and to free both Sison and Buscayno, together with over 500 political detainees.

Sison has never admitted his links with the Communist Party but is associated with a new left-wing political party formed in mid-1986, which is expected to field candidates in local government and parliamentary elections next year.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Raisa Gorbachev goes shopping

NEW DELHI (AP) — Raisa Gorbachev capped her visit to India with a typical tourist's purchase, a traditional Indian sari. The dress is for her daughter Irina, Mrs. Gorbachev told reporters through an interpreter. She said she bought nothing for herself. "The visit itself is a souvenir," Mrs. Gorbachev said. She and her husband, Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev, arrived in New Delhi on Tuesday for a four-day state visit. The sari selected by Mrs. Gorbachev was of hand-loomed silk with rose and green coloured flowers on a beige background. The price was not disclosed. "My daughter will be an Indian at the New Year," Mrs. Gorbachev said. The Soviets have a tradition of masquerade parties to mark the holiday.

Murder suspect kills wife in court

BANGKOK (R) — A suspected murderer has killed his wife and seriously wounded his father before shooting himself dead in a Thai court room, officials said. They said Songpol Pansida, 30, shot his wife Thipawan with a pistol which she handed to him when he entered the courtroom in Lampang province. Songpol then shot his father Ampha, who stepped in shortly after the first shooting, and killed himself with a bullet to the head, the officials said. His father is in critical condition. The shooting took place minutes before the start of Songpol's trial on a 1985 murder charge.

Woman falls while watching parade

NEW YORK (AP) — A woman fell from a fourth-floor window overlooking the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and struck a man standing in the holiday crowd, police and witnesses said. Both victims were taken to Roosevelt Hospital in stable condition and hospital spokeswoman Cathy Rohan said neither appeared to be hurt seriously. Diana Mullman, 44, fell from a building about 10 minutes after the parade started, authorities said. She struck Dennis Egan, 39, as he watched the parade. Egan had a cut on his head and was to be released from the hospital after treatment. Ms. Rohan said Ms. Mullman was conscious and alert and was being evaluated by doctors, she said.

Three stabbed in U.S. prison; 1 killed

MOUNDSVILLE, West Virginia (AP) — A West Virginia penitentiary inmate was stabbed to death and two others were injured during a fight, prison authorities have said. Order was restored quickly after the fight, and the prison remained calm on Thanksgiving morning, said Deputy Warden B.C. Chutter. The three inmates, one of whom had been indicted for his role in the January uprising, were attacked as they returned to their cells from a recreation period, authorities said. One of the inmates died Thursday morning of multiple stab wounds, one was listed in critical condition and the third was scheduled for surgery for a hand wound, authorities said.

Solar-powered village dedicated

KLIL (AP) — This northern Israeli settlement on Thursday became one of the first villages in the world to obtain all its power needs from the sun. At a ceremony inaugurating the new solar energy system, Minister of Energy Moshe Shalev predicted this was only the beginning of an energy revolution in Israel. "In 10 to 20 years from now, each home will be able to have its own generator," he said. Each of the 18 families in this hilltop Galilee village has its own home photovoltaic unit that provides an average of 2.5 kilowatts of electricity per hour. This amount of electricity is enough for lighting, running a refrigerator and domestic appliances and a washing machine.

British woman remanded in Cyprus

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Josephine Olwen Hughes, 32, a British citizen, was remanded in custody for eight days Thursday after police found seven grammes of hashish in her apartment in the south Cypriot city of Larnaca. A police statement said Hughes, whose hometown was not mentioned, was arrested with two Greek-Cypriots believed to have brought her the hashish. Police had come to search the apartment in connection with another case involving Hughes' Greek-Cypriot boyfriend, Neophytos Solesas, a restaurant owner, who had been arrested earlier in Paphos, south Cyprus, the statement said.

Street named after Poindexter

ODON, Indiana (AP) — Vice Adm. John M. Poindexter, who resigned this week as national security adviser to President Ronald Reagan, has had a street named after him in his former hometown. Signs were hung on a four-block street that formerly was named John Street in this south western Indiana community of about 1,500, said John Myers, publisher of the Odon Journal.

CBS postpones comedy about arms sales

NEW YORK (AP) — The CBS television network has postponed a satirical movie that had been scheduled for next week because it is about international arms sales and too similar to recent news events, a spokeswoman has said. The movie, *Deal of the Century*, is a satire about arms merchants who run into difficulties in South America. CBS spokeswoman Anne Luzzatto said the movie, originally set for Tuesday night, was postponed "because of recent news events" — the controversy over the U.S. government's sale of arms to Iran and the diversion of profits to Nicaraguan rebels. Jeffrey Bernstein, a spokesman for Warner Brothers which produced *Deal of the Century*, told the New York Times that the postponement by CBS "wasn't for any political reason." *Deal of the Century* is a comedy. They thought it might not go over too well.

Game postponed because of yarmulkes

MIAMI BEACH, Florida (AP) — Referees blocked a high school basketball game when Hebrew academy players refused to take off their yarmulkes. "They claimed there was an element of danger with the yarmulkes," coach Mark Baranek said. "We refused to bend because of principle. 'I've never heard anything so silly in all my life,'" Baranek said. Before Tuesday night's game with Interamerican High School was postponed, the yarmulkes had never been questioned, he said. The referees believed the high school regulations cite "head decorations, headwear and jewelry" as possibly dangerous. Fred Rozelle, executive secretary of the Florida High School Activities Association in Gainesville, said referees could interpret that rule differently.

Gorbachev's guard blocks Gandhi

NEW DELHI (AP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was momentarily blocked Thursday by a Soviet security guard in the Indian parliament after a speech by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. When the ceremony ended, Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Gorbachev got up from their seats and walked round the rear of the parliament building to meet at the side. But a tall Soviet security man, with his back to the rostrum and eyes on Mr. Gorbachev, blocked Mr. Gandhi momentarily from reaching the side and walking with the Soviet leader. Mr. Gandhi had to tap the security man's back to go ahead and join Mr. Gorbachev. The two then walked down the aisle amid applause from lawmakers.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND CHAN SHARF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A82 ♠ 9873 ♠ A J ♠ Q743
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Double Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q2 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 7 ♠ A1052 ♠ K 6 ♠ AQJ32
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AQJ973 ♠ AQ106 ♠ A 8 ♠ 7
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass Pass 2 ♠
- Q4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AQJ76 ♠ KJ106 ♠ A107 ♠ A J2
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ ?
What action do you take?
- Q5 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AQJ76 ♠ KJ106 ♠ A107 ♠ A J2
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q6 — As South, vulnerable with 60 on score you hold:
♠ K107 ♠ AQ6 ♠ A J85 ♠ KQ9
What is your opening bid?